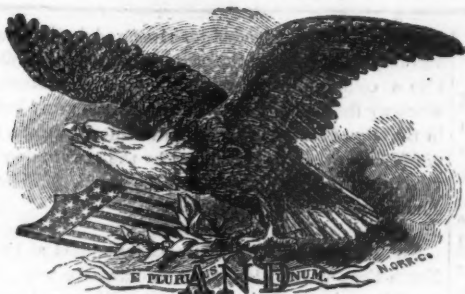


ARMY

GAZETTE OF THE
REGULAR



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THE NORTH-WEST BOUNDARY DISPUTE.

IT is very well-known, of course, that among the various disputed questions now awaiting settlement between Great Britain and the United States, the famous San Juan, or water-boundary difficulty holds a considerable place—overshadowed, it is true, by the *Alabama* affair, and so almost forgotten; but still, a stubborn little matter in itself, which more than once during the last ten or fifteen years, and especially in 1859, threatened to precipitate war.

We do not mean that it is now capable of any but a pacific solution—it would be preposterous to await any other. Indeed, it is very remarkable that the temporary joint occupation of the Island of San Juan, arranged during Mr. BUCHANAN's administration, with a view to avert threatened collisions between the settlers and military forces of the respective countries, has lasted nearly ten years, without the slightest hostile incident. However, joint occupancy cannot last forever; the boundary must be definitely settled; and as it is understood that "the President of Switzerland"—a very obscure potentate, but perhaps not the less sensible and upright, on that account—has been selected as arbiter, doubtless we shall soon have the final decision rendered.

We frankly confess, for ourselves, that it seems impossible that any but the American view of this dispute can be affirmed by the referee. The question, of course, is one of treaty interpretation; and, though volumes have been written on the subject, the main points are well-defined and simple of apprehension. The treaty of June 15, 1846, declared in its very first article, that the north-west boundary between the United States and Great Britain "shall be continued westward along the said forty-ninth parallel of north latitude to the middle of the channel which separates the continent from Vancouver's Island, and thence southerly through the middle of the said channel and of Fuca's Straits to the Pacific Ocean: Provided, however, that the navigation of the whole of said channel and strait south of the forty-ninth parallel of north latitude remain free and open to both parties." Here lies the kernel of the controversy. These words, quoted from the official copy of the treaty, constitute the entire *text* of the discussion; all the rest is comment.

Where, then, did the dispute arise? In construing the words "to the middle of the channel which separates the continent from Vancouver's Island." What is this channel, confidently referred to in the treaty as if beyond question, and therefore needing no name? When we come to look at the charts, we find between the main land and Vancouver's Island, first, on the north, the Gulf of Georgia, and secondly, on the south, the Straits of Fuca; but, between these latter, several channels, making

their way between the groups of islands there situate. However, these several channels may finally be resolved into two, namely, the *Canal de Haro*, and *Rosario Strait*, both connecting the Gulf of Georgia with the Straits of Fuca. Through which of these channels does the treaty line run? Great Britain says through Rosario Strait, the United States says through the Canal de Haro. Between these two channels, whereof the latter is nearer Vancouver's, but the other nearer the main land, lies the Haro Archipelago, of which the chief island is San Juan; the line through Rosario Strait would give them all to British jurisdiction, while the line through the Canal de Haro would give them to us.

In order to understand the equitable merits of the respective claims, we must of course look at what the treaty of 1846 was designed to accomplish. It was in itself the settlement of the Oregon boundary controversy, a dispute which had subsisted ever since the beginning of the century. Everybody remembers that, while east of the Rocky Mountains the boundary was clearly settled as being the forty-ninth parallel, west of the mountains the two countries set up counter pretensions, Great Britain claiming jurisdiction down to 42 deg., while the United States had determined, in popular phrase, on "54, 40,—or fight." The perilous controversy of two-score years was at length concluded, by Great Britain's proposing and the United States consenting to accept 49 deg. north as the boundary west of the Rocky Mountains. But it so happens that this parallel runs across the southerly part of Vancouver's Island; and therefore it was very naturally and properly insisted on by Great Britain, that the boundary line should be so deflected from the forty-ninth parallel, as to give her the whole of Vancouver's Island. This was accordingly consented to. But the entire documentary testimony shows that *but for Vancouver*, the whole line would have been continued on the forty-ninth parallel. It was to secure Vancouver to Great Britain, and that island alone, that the deflection was made. And hence, when now the British government interprets what it claims to be an ambiguous phrase in the treaty in favor of giving to it *other* islands besides Vancouver, its claim contradicts the purpose of the treaty, and the uniform sentiment, public and official, in accordance with which the treaty was arranged. It would be impossible to cite here the profuse and indisputable contemporaneous testimony regarding the sole object of deflecting the boundary from the forty-ninth parallel; but the strength of the argument, which rests on these premises, is obvious. The history of the conferences of Mr. McLANE with Lord ABERDEEN will show the truth of the premises.

In the next place, that the Canal de Haro was the channel contemplated by the treaty is clear from the geographical features of the waters in dispute. Indeed, the State Department has formally declared that "every officer of the Government, who had any part in the negotiation, adoption, or ratification of the treaty," understood distinctly that "the line was to be carried through the Canal de Haro to the Straits of Fuca, on its way to the Pacific Ocean." And why so? A glance at the map will reveal. The Canal de Haro is the *main channel*, incomparably the broadest and deepest. The main flow of water between the Gulf of Georgia and the Straits of Fuca is, as we

have said, through the Canal de Haro on the west and Rosario Straits on the east; but, whereas the greatest depth of water in the Canal de Haro is 183 fathoms, the greatest depth in the Rosario Strait is but 60 fathoms, *less than one-third*. Again, whereas the least depth in Rosario Strait is 29 fathoms, the least depth in the Canal de Haro is 92 fathoms, *over three times as great*; and the average depth is three times as great in the one as in the other. Again, the least breadth of the Canal de Haro is 2 1-5 miles, and the greatest breadth is 8 miles; the least breadth of the Rosario Strait is 1 1-2 miles, and the greatest but 6 2-3 miles. The average breadth is far greater in the one case than in the other. Taking, therefore, the breadth multiplied into the depth, can there be any question regarding the channel through which the main volume of water flows from the Gulf of Georgia? Can there be any doubt as to which is the main channel? Can there, in fine, be any doubt in the mind of the referee that, if but one channel was mentioned in the treaty, that the Canal de Haro must have been that channel? Or that, if any argument is to be derived from the fact that no channel is specified by a proper name, the argument should be this, that it was never conceived that any other but the Canal de Haro *could* be meant?

In fact, when, in the next place, we come to review Mr. SEWARD's strong assertion regarding the universal understanding of every officer of our Government, we shall see why the *Canal de Haro* was not mentioned by name—none other was thought of in Great Britain or here. Mr. McLANE, our ambassador, sent specially to England to settle this boundary question, wrote officially to Mr. BUCHANAN, then Secretary of State, May 18, 1846, less than a month before the signing of the treaty, the substance of the proposal of the British Government, the result of his own "lengthened conference with Lord Aberdeen" the day before. A new proposition, he added, "will be transmitted to Mr. PAKENHAM by the steamer of to-morrow," for "the extension of the line on the parallel of forty-nine to the sea—that is to say, the arm of the sea called Birch's Bay—thence by the *Canal de Haro* and Straits of Fuca to the ocean." These instructions were sent. The "new proposition," which became the treaty of 1846, arrived in the same mail with Mr. McLANE's letter, and both were sent to the Senate together by President POLK. Mr. McLANE's letter was the result, as he expressed it, of "a full and free conversation on the nature of the proposition." Mr. BENTON, in the Senate, explaining the treaty, said, "the line proceeds to the middle of the channel, and thence, turning South, through the *Channel de Haro* . . . it gives us the cluster of islands, probably of no value, between De Haro's channel and the continent." In fact, whatever was said or written here or in Great Britain up to the time of the signing of the treaty, took for granted, if it did not directly assert, that the main channel (*i. e.*, the Canal de Haro) was to be the boundary line, and that the Haro Archipelago would become the property of the United States.

We have no space here to describe the military importance to us of San Juan, nor any to note the origin of the British claim, and the forced interpretation it seeks to put upon the treaty. It will be clear, however, we trust, from what has just been said, that the United States may await with confidence the decision of the referee.

THE ARMY.

By direction of the Secretary of War, the United States revenue officers in Arizona will be furnished, when required for the performance of their official duties, with military escorts, so far as the military service will permit.

THE reasons which led to the organization of the Rocky Mountain District no longer existing, General Augur has ordered it to be discontinued after December 3d. The records will be carefully arranged and sent to department headquarters. Until further orders, the headquarters of the Thirty-sixth Infantry are established at Fort Sanders. The immediate protection of railroad, telegraph, and other public interests in their vicinity, is devolved upon post commanders, as follows: The commanding officer of Fort McPherson—from Plum Creek Station to Alkali Station—inclusive; commanding officer Fort Sedgwick—from Roscoe Station west to Bushnell Station—both inclusive; commanding officer Fort D. A. Russell—from Pine Bluff Station to Sherman Station—including both; commanding officer Fort Sanders—from Red Butte Station to Medicine Bow Station—including both; commanding officer Fort Fred. Steele—from Carbon Station to Point of Rock Station—including both; commanding officer Fort Bridger—from Salt Wells to mouth of Echo Canon; commanding officer Camp Douglas—all west of mouth of Echo Canon. The commanding officers of Forts Laramie, Fetterman and Kearney will exercise like supervision over public interests within their reach. The above described limits of commands are to be observed ordinarily, but will not be regarded by any officer when he has an opportunity either to prevent a mischief or to punish marauding bands. Each commanding officer will promptly communicate to the others all information in his possession affecting, or likely to affect, their commands. Commanding officers when notified by agents or other reliable persons, of actual or threatened interruption to the railroad, telegraph or other public interests, by Indians or other evil-disposed persons within the limits of their command, or any other if they can immediately reach it by any means within their control, will at once notify department and other proper commander, and take prompt measures themselves to prevent disaster and to punish the guilty parties if possible. The rule being that every scene of actual or threatened danger is "in the command" of every commanding officer whose troops can possibly be gotten there in time to be of service.

THE following order, received from the War Department, is published for the government of all concerned: The transfer or exchange of company officers in a regiment will not be made without a previous reference to the adjutant-general for the approval of the general-in-chief. When such transfers or exchanges are sanctioned, a copy of the orders announcing them will be immediately transmitted to the adjutant-general of the Army. This order is not intended to prohibit temporary assignments of officers to do duty with other companies than their own.

GENERALS Babcock and Porter, of General Grant's staff, have left for the South, under orders to make an investigation of the condition of affairs in the Department of Louisiana for the information of General Grant. It is stated that some time previous to the general's departure for Chicago, letters were received by him from citizens in Louisiana and Arkansas, giving very conflicting accounts of events occurring in those states, and the manner in which they were treated by the military authorities. The reports of the military officers on duty there, and the reports of General Rosseau, commanding the department, gave statements differing from those of the civilians, and before taking any action in regard to the movement of troops, or the change of officers, the general was desirous of knowing the exact status of affairs in that department, especially in Arkansas. This tour of inspection, it is believed, will not be concluded until about the middle of next month.

ARMY officers stationed on the Plains and the Pacific coast will be glad to learn that Mr. Geo. W. McLellan, second assistant postmaster-general, has written a letter to Senator Ramsey, in relation to complaints made regarding abuse of mail matter in transit on the overland route to California, stating that this and other similar complaints have been brought to the notice of Wells, Fargo & Co., the contractors for the transportation of the overland mails, with directions to take prompt and effectual measures to correct the abuse.

THE Secretary of War recently sent a communication to the House stating that it is impracticable to state with sufficient accuracy the amount expended during the year 1868, on account of the Indian war, and

that the amount expended for river and harbor surveys and improvements for the same period was \$3,400,000; also a communication recommending as a measure of economy that the property known as the army building in the city of New York, and now under lease at a rental of \$25,000 a year, be purchased by the government; provided the property be found to be worth \$375,000, the sum named as the price.

FROM a private letter just received, dated at Camp on North Fork of Canadian River, Indian Territory, December 6th, we extract the following: "We start to-morrow on a scout southward, with the Seventh Cavalry (Regular,) and Nineteenth Kansas, under Crawford. General Sheridan goes along. The weather is bitter cold. Last night we had a terrible snow storm. Our troops will suffer some, but what will be suffering to us will be death to our red brethren."

WE are glad to see it reported "that General Meade, in conjunction with several other officers of the Army of the Potomac, is proposing to move in the matter of organizing the society of the Army of the Potomac." Officers who wish to participate in this movement, will facilitate the matter by sending their names and addresses to the editor of this journal, Colonel Church.

TELEGRAPHIC advices from the Plains state that the expedition under Colonel Carpenter had returned to Fort Wallace. No evidence of Indians in the rear of General Sherman has been found.

THE following is a roster of officers of the Thirty-third U. S. Infantry, Headquarters at Huntsville, Alabama, November 30th:

COLONEL.—Thos. H. Ruger, brigadier-general, Huntsville, Alabama, commanding regiment and district of Alabama.

LIEUTENANT-COLONEL.—Charles R. Woods, major-general, Newport, Kentucky, commanding depot general recruiting service.

MAJOR.—John D. Wilkins, lieutenant-colonel, Mobile, Alabama, commanding post.

ADJUTANT.—Frank T. Adams, Huntsville, Alabama, first lieutenant, regimental adjutant and acting assistant adjutant-general, District of Alabama.

REGIMENTAL QUARTERMASTER.—Augustus W. Corliss, first lieutenant, Andersonville, Georgia, in charge of national cemetery at Marietta and Andersonville, Georgia.

CAPTAINS.—John F. Ritter, lieutenant-colonel Company H, Huntsville, Alabama, commanding company and post; George M. Brayton, major, Company C, Selma, Alabama, commanding company and station; Frederick D. Ogilby, major, Company E, Davis Island, New York Harbor, on general recruiting service; Chas. McC. Lord, Company G, Huntsville, Alabama, commanding company; George K. Sanderson, Company A, Mobile, Alabama, commanding company; Charles J. von Herrmann, major, Company K, Huntsville, Alabama, commanding company; Samuel R. Honey, Company F, Mobile, Alabama, commanding company; Charles Wheaton, Company I, Huntsville, Alabama, commanding company; Orson C. Knapp, Company B, Huntsville, Alabama, commanding company.

FIRST LIEUTENANTS.—Eugene W. Sheibner, Company A, Mobile, Alabama, with company; Egbert B. Savage, Company D, Huntsville, Alabama, commanding company; John G. S. White, Company B, Huntsville, Alabama, commanding Company E, Thirty-third Infantry; George S. Spalding, captain, Company C, Selma, Alabama, with company; Joseph G. Waters, captain, Company F, Mobile, Alabama, post adjutant and treasurer; Gordon Winslow, Company E, Huntsville, Alabama, in arrest, undergoing sentence of general court-martial; James W. Powell, Company I, Huntsville, Alabama, with company; William Quinton, Company K, Huntsville, Alabama, with company; John C. Scantling, Company G, Huntsville, Alabama, with company; Helenus Dodt, Company H, Huntsville, Alabama, post adjutant and treasurer acting assistant quartermaster, acting commissary subsistence of post.

SECOND LIEUTENANTS.—Lafayette E. Campbell, Company H, Huntsville, Alabama, with company; Cyrus A. Earnest, major, Company K, Huntsville, Alabama, with company; John W. Summerhays, captain, Company I, Huntsville, Alabama, with company; P. Henry Ray, Company C, Selma, Alabama, with company; Hundley S. Maloney, Company D, Huntsville, Alabama, with company; John McE. Hyde, Company A, Mobile, Alabama, acting assistant quartermaster, and acting commissary of subsistence of post; Edward Lynch, Company D, Huntsville, Alabama, with company.

THE following is a roster of the Eighth Infantry, December 1, 1868.

COLONEL.—James V. Bomford, brevet brigadier-general, Columbia, S. C., commanding regiment and District of South Carolina.

LIEUTENANT-COLONEL.—John R. Edie, brevet colonel, Columbia, S. C., assistant commissioner Bureau Refugees, Freeman and Abandoned Lands for South Carolina.

MAJOR.—Milton Cogswell, brevet colonel, Columbia, S. C., commanding post.

CAPTAINS.—Henry M. Lazelle, brevet major Company H, commanding company; Edwin W. H. Read, brevet major Company C, Troy, N. Y., on leave; James J. Van Horn, brevet major Company F, Newberry, S. C., commanding company and post; Royal T. Frank, brevet lieutenant-colonel Company D, Abbeville, S. C., commanding company and post; Alfred T. Smith, brevet

lieutenant-colonel Company I, Columbia, S. C., commanding company; John N. Andrews, lieutenant-colonel Company G, Columbia, S. C., commanding company; William S. Worth, brevet major Company B, Columbia, S. C., commanding company; Henry B. Noble, Company A, New York City, sick; P. H. Remington, Company K, Edgefield, S. C., commanding company and post; Charles Snyder, Company E, Columbia, S. C., commanding company.

FIRST LIEUTENANTS.—Henry E. Hazen, brevet captain Company F, Newberry, S. C., with company; Gerritt V. S. Aiken, Company B; Daniel T. Wells, brevet major Company C, Columbia, S. C., commanding company; Joseph K. Wilson, Columbia, S. C., quartermaster; Bishop Aldrich, Company E, Charleston, S. C., depot commissary of subsistence; Charles F. Loashe, Company G, Columbia, S. C., with company, acting post adjutant; Burnett E. Miller, Company H, Abbeville, S. C., with Company D; Thomas Wilhelm, brevet major, Columbia, S. C., adjutant, acting assistant adjutant-general District South Carolina; Folliot A. Whitney, Company K, Edgefield, S. C., with company; Thomas B. Robinson, Company I, Columbia, S. C., with company; William M. Wallace, Company D, Washington, D. C., acting signal officer; James Humbert, Company A, Columbia, S. C., commanding company.

SECOND LIEUTENANTS.—Stephen O'Connor, Company K, Edgefield, S. C., with company; Eugene B. Gibbs, Company D, Columbia, S. C., acting assistant quartermaster, assistant commissary of subsistence; John O'Connell, Company B, Aiken, S. C., commanding detachment; William H. McMinn, Company G, Columbia, S. C., with company; Charles M. Bailly, Company E, Columbia, S. C., with company; Calvin T. Speer, Company I, Columbia, S. C., with company; Robert S. Fletcher, Company F, Newberry, S. C., with company; W. S. Alexander, Company A, Columbia, S. C., with company.

ARMY PERSONAL

BREVET Major-General W. P. Carlin, major Thirty-fourth U. S. Infantry, has been detailed for a field-officer's court, appointed to convene at Holly Springs, Miss., December 17th.

THE leave of absence for fifteen days, granted Brevet Major R. H. Pond, U. S. Army, captain Twelfth Infantry, in Special Orders No. 201, Department of Washington, has been extended ten days.

SECOND Lieutenant Isaac W. Maclay, Ordnance Department, having reported to the commanding general Department of the Platte, has been announced as chief ordnance officer of the department.

THE contract with Dr. W. H. Corbusier, late acting assistant surgeon U. S. Army, stationed in Department of Louisiana, has been annulled, and transportation furnished him from New Orleans to New York.

THE father of General Gibbon, Dr. J. H. Gibbon of Charlotte, N. C., died December 16th, in Baltimore, where he was engaged in delivering a course of lectures on the antiquities of America, before the Maryland Institute.

ACTING Assistant Surgeon Willard H. Greene, U. S. Army, has been ordered to proceed from Huntsville, Texas, to Austin, Texas, and report in person to the medical director Fifth Military District, for assignment to duty.

BREVET Brigadier-General Wm. M. Graham, U. S. Army, captain Light Battery K, First Artillery, has been ordered to turn in to the Ordnance Department at Baton Rouge, La., two half-inch Gatlin guns, now in his possession.

FIRST Lieutenant Edwin A. Rigg, Company K, Thirty-eighth U. S. Infantry has been tried and acquitted of the charges of drunkenness on duty, in violation of the forty-fifth article of war, and of conduct unbecoming an officer and gentleman.

LEAVE of absence, on surgeon's certificate of disability, for twenty days, with permission to apply to Headquarters Military Division of the Missouri, for an extension of thirty days, has been granted First Lieutenant W. B. Kennedy, Tenth U. S. Cavalry.

BREVET Major J. M. Brown, assistant surgeon U. S. Army, having reported at Headquarters Department of Louisiana, has been ordered to proceed to Little Rock, Ark., and report to the commanding general and to the surgeon-in-chief, District of Arkansas, for assignment to duty at Fort Smith, Ark.

LEAVE of absence for twenty days, with permission to apply for an extension of three months, and with authority to leave the Fifth Military District, was granted to First Lieutenant Moses Wiley, Sixth U. S. Cavalry, regimental quartermaster. The leave to take effect, when in the opinion of his post commander, his services can be spared.

BREVET Brigadier-General Thomas H. Neill, major Twentieth Infantry, was ordered, December 12th, to proceed to Washington City, D. C., in charge of official records of Department of Louisiana. Upon the completion of this duty, he is allowed to delay twenty days, when he will return to his duties at headquarters same department.

THE Soldiers and Sailors' National Executive committee have appointed a sub-committee, resident in Washington, to provide quarters for soldiers and sailors coming to participate in the inauguration of the President elect. Letters asking information as to quarters, etc., may be addressed to Colonel C. W. Taylor, secretary, Washington, D. C.

GENERAL McDowell was present at the New England dinner in this city, on the 22d, and responded to this toast: "The Army and Navy—both have illustrated the heroic page of our history by imperishable records and immortal names." Admiral Farragut, who was expected to respond in behalf of the Navy, sent a note apologizing for absence on account of indisposition.

A GENERAL Court-martial was appointed to meet at Baton Rouge, Louisiana, on Thursday, the 17th day of

December, or as soon thereafter as practicable, for the trial of such persons as may be properly brought before it. Detail for the court: Brevet Major-General Romeya B. Ayres, lieutenant-colonel Twenty-eighth Infantry; Brevet Major Robert H. Olfley, captain First Infantry; Brevet Major Kinzie Bates, captain First Infantry; Brevet Major Isaac D. DeRassey, captain First Infantry; Brevet Major Leslie Smith, captain First Infantry; Brevet Major Edward R. Parry, captain Twentieth Infantry; First Lieutenant Henry B. Mellen, Sixth Cavalry. Brevet Captain S. E. Carncross, first lieutenant Twentieth Infantry, judge-advocate.

THE following is a list of the officers reporting at Headquarters Department of the Missouri, Fort Leavenworth, Kas., for the week ending December 12, 1868: Brevet Major and Captain C. W. Howell, engineer, en route to report to General Sheridan; Brevet Major-General H. F. Clarke, Subsistence Department, on special service; Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel and Major T. C. English, Fifth Infantry, member of Court of Inquiry.

ACTING Assistant Surgeon Alward White, U. S. Army, having reported at the headquarters of the Fifth Military District, in compliance with the order of the Surgeon General, has been ordered to proceed, without delay, to Camp Concordia, Texas, and relieve Acting Assistant Surgeon R. M. Kirk, U. S. Army, who is ordered to report in person to the Medical Director, Fifth Military District, for the annulment of his contract, at his request.

ACTING Assistant Surgeon C. C. Barbour, U. S. Army, upon his return from temporary duty with the Twentieth Infantry, has been ordered to proceed to Monroe, La., and relieve Acting Assistant Surgeon J. J. Auerbach, U. S. Army, from duty at that place. Acting Assistant Surgeon Auerbach, upon being relieved, is ordered to report in person to the medical director, Department of Louisiana, at New Orleans, for annulment of contract.

By direction of the President, Major-General O. O. Howard is honorably mustered out of the service of the United States as major-general of Volunteers, to take effect on the 1st of January, 1869. General Howard consequently falls back to his rank of brigadier-general in the Regular Army, to which he was appointed December 21, 1864. He stands number six on the list of brigadier-generals, as shown by the Army Register, and also holds the rank of brevet major-general in the Army, from March 13, 1865.

CAPTAIN Luke O'Reilly, Thirty-ninth Infantry, having been promoted to the command of a company, Brevet Captain Henry P. Ritzius, second lieutenant Thirty-ninth Infantry, has been ordered to temporarily perform the duties of acting regimental adjutant. The official relations that have heretofore existed between the Colonel of the regiment and Captain O'Reilly having been dissolved by the promotion of the latter officer, his regimental commander, Brevet Major-General Mower, has issued an order expressing his entire satisfaction with the able manner in which Captain O'Reilly has performed his duties as regimental adjutant, and stating that he carries with him to his new position his best wishes.

THE following officers were registered at Headquarters Department of Louisiana, during the week ending December 12, 1868: Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel A. K. Smith, surgeon U. S. Army; Captain H. J. Farnsworth, first lieutenant Thirty-fourth Infantry; Major P. E. Holcomb, captain Thirty-fifth Infantry; Major William W. Clemens, first lieutenant Thirty-fifth Infantry; William O. Cory, first lieutenant Twenty-fourth Infantry; Captain Archibald Bogle, first lieutenant Thirty-ninth Infantry; Brigadier-General J. A. Potter, major Quartermaster's Department; Major Edward R. Parry, captain Twentieth Infantry; Colonel W. H. Walcott, captain U. S. Army; H. W. Hubbell, jr., second lieutenant First Artillery; Herman Schreiner, first lieutenant Twentieth Infantry; Major J. Morris Brown, assistant surgeon U. S. Army; C. H. Hoyt, captain and acting quartermaster; William McElroy, first lieutenant Thirty-ninth Infantry; A. C. Girard, assistant surgeon U. S. Army; Thos. Latchford, first lieutenant and regimental quartermaster Twentieth Infantry; William Atwood, first lieutenant Nineteenth Infantry; James F. Randlett, captain Thirty-Ninth Infantry.

THE Tenth New York Cavalry held their third annual reunion and anniversary banquet, at the Messenger House, Cortland, New York, December 15th, and elected the following officers for the year: President, Major M. H. Blynn; First Vice-President, Colonel A. D. Waters; Second Vice-President, Dr. R. W. Pease; Third Vice-President, Major J. H. Kemper; Fourth Vice-President, Lieutenant-Colonel B. F. Seava; Corresponding Secretary, Brevet Major N. D. Preston; Recording Secretary, Brevet Major F. G. Shaver; Treasurer, Captain H. S. Pratt; Executive Committee, Brevet Major N. D. Preston, Captain Walter Perry, Major W. A. Snyder, Dr. R. W. Pease, Lieutenant Hiram Layton, Brevet Major F. G. Shaver and Major Kennedy. Communications were read from Generals Sheridan, Burnside, Meade, Torbert, Gregg, and others, and remarks made by Colonel Waters, Major M. H. Blynn, Brevet Majors F. G. Shaver and J. T. Pratt, and C. W. Wiles, of the Tenth Cavalry. Brevet Major A. Sager, of the Seventy-sixth; Colonel Carmichael and Place, of the One Hundred and Fifty-seventh; Captain J. W. Strowbridge, of the One Hundred and Eighty-fifth, and J. M. Couch, Esq., interspersed with music by the cornet band. The next reunion and banquet will be held at the Vanderbilt House, in Syracuse, December 15, 1869.

PROFESSOR Blot, the apostle of good cooking, has taken charge of what is known by the rather high sounding name of the "Rumford Food Laboratory," a Boston institution. It is, in reality, a kitchen wherein are prepared several varieties of soup; its bill of fare, at present, not extending beyond this initial course of the dinner. These soups are put up in hermetically sealed cans, and are sold outside of Boston, we believe, or they ought to be, by all the leading grocers. They are delightfully concocted, and are sold at reasonable prices.

THE POWDER RIVER COUNTRY.

HISTORY OF ITS OCCUPATION.

A PORTION of our north-western territories has of late years gained considerable notoriety under the name of the Powder River Country. The Powder River rises among the north-eastern spurs of the Big Horn Mountains, in that part of Dakota Territory now included in the new territory of Wyoming, in about latitude 43 north, longitude 105 west, and after flowing north-east two hundred and fifty miles, empties into the Yellowstone River. From this being the only stream of any importance crossed by trappers and traders in their course north-west from the Platte River, they spoke of the entire neighboring country as the Powder River Country, a name afterwards applied to all the country in Western Dakota and Eastern Montana occupied by United States troops. Under this head, for the past few years, has been included the military posts of Reno, Philip Kearney, D. T., and C. F. Smith, M. T., and the emigrant road from the North Platte River to the settlements and mines of Montana.

In the spring of 1866, the Government decided upon the occupation of this country, and the opening up of a road which would enable the emigrant to reach the mines, without going by the circuitous route, by way of Salt Lake City, thus saving three or four hundred miles. On the 19th of May, that year, the Second battalion Eighteenth U. S. Infantry, under Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel Haymond, and the regimental headquarters, all under Colonel H. B. Carrington, Eighteenth U. S. Infantry, left Fort Kearney, Nebraska, where it had been stationed since November, 1865, enroute for the new country, with orders to build three new military posts on the head-waters of Powder, Tongue and the Yellowstone Rivers. Colonel Carrington was also ordered to establish regimental headquarters of his regiment at one of these posts, and assume command of the mountain district, Department of the Platte, which the three new posts would constitute.

In the fall of 1865, a detachment of the Fifth U. S. Volunteers had built a post on Powder River, about 150 miles from its mouth and 170 miles from Fort Laramie, D. T. This was known as Fort Connor, afterward Fort Reno. It was the intention to move this post some sixty miles further west. The regimental headquarters and Second battalion Eighteenth Infantry arrived at this place on the 28th of June, and relieving the volunteer garrison, proceeded on the 9th day of July, to dive into the new country, leaving one company to guard the supplies at the post until a new site could be selected. Colonel Carrington arrived with his command at the forks of Piney Creek (a branch of Powder River), on the 13th of July. Having chosen a site that he thought suitable, he immediately set about building the new Fort Reno. Four companies were designated, two of which, under Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel Kinney, were to proceed to the point where the proposed road would cross the Big Horn River, Montana Territory, ninety-five miles north-west, and establish a post, to be called Fort Ransom; while the other two, with headquarters Second battalion, under Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel Haymond, were to proceed about one hundred and fifty miles further, and establish a post on the Yellowstone River, M. T., to be known as Fort Simons.

In the meantime, on the 17th of July a party of Sioux Indians charged in on the herd of mules that had just been turned out to graze, and succeeded in stampeding and driving away about eighty of them. A detachment of mounted men, under Colonel Haymond, were soon in pursuit, and overtaking the Indians, who were acting as rear guard to their prize, attacked them briskly, keeping up a running fight for several miles, but were unable to overhaul or recover the mules. On the 20th of the same month First Lieutenant N. H. Daniels, Eighteenth U. S. Infantry, who had just been appointed and assigned to the regiment, was killed by Sioux on one of the forks of Powder River, between old and new Fort Reno, while en route to join the regiment, and the party of officers and soldiers with which he was traveling had quite a little skirmish with them during the greater part of one afternoon.

About this time the intention of building the post on the Yellowstone was abandoned, another company was sent to old Fort Reno, which was to be rebuilt and retain its name, and the proposed new Fort Reno was designated as Fort Philip Kearney, and Fort Ransom as Fort C. F. Smith. Here, then, was plenty of work for the soldiers, who had just come off their long march. Owing to the lateness of the season, it required the united and vigorous efforts of both officers and men to erect the necessary stockades, storehouses, stables and barracks before the advent of winter; and although the latter were temporary, and were not noted for architectural beauty, yet they served to protect the troops from the rigors of the winter that set in even before their completion.

During all this time—even from the first arrival of troops—the northern Sioux, Cheyennes and Arapahoes, who claimed the country in which the posts were being

built, were very troublesome, and few days passed that their war parties did not make their appearance. They claimed, with justice, that they had never given their consent to the occupation of the country, and declared their intention and determination to fight as long as it was so held. This constant warfare made the duties of the troops very arduous, as they had not only to furnish large details for guard duty, but each train bringing supplies had to be guarded hundreds of miles; mails must be carried by heavy armed parties, and every wagon or train going to the mountains for timber or stone must have a large escort. In addition, hay and fuel in large quantities must be secured, and parties procuring these articles, having numbers of horses and mules with them, were favorite objects for the attacks of Indians. Owing to the press of other work, much of the wood had to be hauled in the depth of winter, and the troops going to the woods, where the snow was knee deep and the mercury at thirty degrees below zero, suffered severely, and numerous cases of frost bite occurred.

The presence of troops caused a number of emigrants to choose the short route to the Northern El Dorado, during the summer of 1866, but all emigration ceased, of course, before cold weather set in. During the season of emigration mails were tolerably regular—perhaps once in two weeks—but after that they were very irregular, and it was considered fortunate if they were received once a month. The garrison of Fort C. F. Smith suffered more in this respect than the others, having been entirely cut off from communication (even by mail) with the outside world for four months. During this time the supply of tobacco at the garrison was exhausted, and many were the substitutes tried and adopted to supply the place of "Game Cock" and "Navy"—red willow bark, the leaves of the mountain laurel and of the wild sage bush, coffee grounds dried, tea, etc. Many a quid of plug, after having imparted its stimulant in one way, was carefully dried and made to perform duty in the "brier root" before its services were finally dispensed with.

Quite a trade sprang up between the soldiers and the friendly Crow Indians, who, for extraordinary inducements, disposed of part of their supply of tobacco procured from their trader a short time before. Exorbitant prices were paid, and diminutive morsels were doled out to eager and ready purchasers at the rate of over one hundred dollars per pound. To add to the discomfort, the supply of breadstuffs and other commissary stores gave out in the early spring, but the quartermaster had plenty of corn on hand, and for weeks the troops lived on boiled corn, which necessity and experience taught them to make quite edible, although the total absence of salt and pepper rendered it rather unpalatable to the fastidious.

The garrison of Fort Philip Kearney, was re-enforced in November, 1868, by company C, Second U. S. Cavalry, under Second Lieutenant H. S. Bingham, but this officer was killed in an engagement between the mounted infantry and his company under Brevet Colonel Fetterman and the Indians on the 6th of December. On the 21st of December occurred the massacre (known as the Phil Kearney or Fetterman massacre, in which Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel Wm. J. Fetterman and sixty-three enlisted men of the Second Battalion (then, by the reorganization of the Army, the Twenty-seventh U. S. Infantry), Captain F. H. Brown, and Second Lieutenant G. W. Grummond, Eighteenth U. S. Infantry—on duty with the Twenty-seventh Infantry—and twenty-one men of the Second U. S. Cavalry, were killed, not a man escaping to tell the tale.

In January, 1867, three companies of the Eighteenth U. S. Infantry, under Brevet Brigadier-General Wessells, lieutenant-colonel Eighteenth Infantry, arrived at Fort Philip Kearney; General Wessells assumed command, and Colonel Carrington was ordered to Fort Casper, D. T. Three companies remained there until July, when they were ordered to garrison Fort Reno, D. T., relieving the companies of the Twenty-seventh Infantry there, who then joined for duty at the other posts. The garrisons of Forts Philip Kearney and C. F. Smith were still further increased by recruits and the two additional companies provided for in the new organization. While Brevet Major-General John E. Smith, colonel Twenty-seventh U. S. Infantry, remained at Fort Philip Kearney, with five companies, in command of the regiment and the Mountain District, Brevet Brigadier-General L. P. Bradley, lieutenant-colonel Twenty-seventh U. S. Infantry, went to Fort C. F. Smith, taking with him a sufficient number of companies to increase the garrison to five companies.

On the first of August, 1867, a party of seven hundred Northern Sioux, Cheyennes and Arapahoes, under a celebrated Sioux chief (The Bear that Grabs), attacked a party of nineteen enlisted men and six citizens, under the command of Second Lieutenant S. Sternberg, Twenty-seventh U. S. Infantry, while procuring hay in the vicinity of Fort C. F. Smith. Lieutenant S.—a young Prussian who had sought service in our Army—fought them from a few rifle pits he had dug, and a brush corral, built for the purpose of securing the stock at night. Although he fell early in the fight, while bravely defending his post, and although the Indians charged time and again to within a few feet of the works, the men held out several hours, until relieved by troops sent from the fort under Brevet Major Burrows and Lieutenant Fenton.

On the next day (August 2d), another and entirely different party of eight hundred Sioux, under Red Cloud, attacked Brevet Major Powell, Twenty-seventh Infantry, and about thirty enlisted men and citizens under his charge, who were engaged in cutting wood near Fort Philip Kearney. In this fight First Lieutenant J. C. Jenness, Twenty-seventh U. S. Infantry, laid down his life, while encouraging his men to stand firm. The men encouraged by his example, repelled the successive charges of the Indians, and held their ground until the Indians were caused to withdraw by the arrival of reinforcements under the command of Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel Smith, Major Twenty-seventh U. S. Infantry.

In November of the same year, an escort to a train under Second Lieutenant E. R. P. Shurly, Twenty-seventh Infantry, was attacked on Peno Creek, between Forts C. F. Smith and Philip Kearney, and in an engagement of several hours' duration, Lieutenant S. was wounded and several men killed and wounded.

In these and in more than one hundred other skirmishes and actions, in which the regiment was engaged, it lost nearly as heavily as a regiment with an ambitious colonel would have done during the hottest period of the war of the Rebellion. Owing to the nature of Indian warfare, few were wounded, and quarter being neither asked nor granted, no prisoners were taken.

The losses of the Twenty-seventh Infantry, and the companies of that regiment while formerly known as the Second battalion of the Eighteenth Infantry, during the two years of their occupation of the country, were three commissioned officers and about one hundred and fifteen enlisted men killed, and one commissioned officer and twenty-three enlisted men wounded. In addition, two commissioned officers of the Eighteenth Infantry were killed while on duty with the companies of the Twenty-seventh, before they had been able to join their regiment after the reorganization of the Army, and one while en route to join regimental headquarters at Fort Philip Kearney.

The Indian war rendering the route unsafe for emigrants, and the Indians insisting, before the Peace Commission, upon the removal of the troops, it is needless to say that orders were issued for the abandonment of the entire country from the Platte to the Yellowstone.

This movement was initiated on the 29th of July, 1868, by the marching of the Fort C. F. Smith garrison, composed of Companies E, G, and H, under command of Brevet Major Burt. No sooner had they left their quarters and barracks and turned their faces southward, than the Crow Indians—who were camped in the immediate vicinity in great numbers—entered and held high carnival in parlor, kitchen, and sitting room—apartments once considered sacred to the children of Uncle Samuel. In fact the old fort had an inkling of its future the day before, when the Crows, having killed some of their hereditary enemies—the Sioux—while trying to steal their horses, had asked permission to hold their scalp dance within the sacred precincts, and the request having been kindly granted, they, decked in paint and feathers, ranged themselves around the flagstaff and executed their barbaric rites and dances, to the immense gratification of the garrison.

The abandonment of this post was followed by the evacuation, on the 11th of August, of Fort Philip Kearney by its garrison, consisting of Companies A, C, I, and K, under command of Captain E. L. Hartz. As soon as the garrisons of the upper posts had passed Fort Reno (which had for some time been occupied by companies of the Twenty-seventh Infantry), it was abandoned by its garrison, consisting of Companies B, D, and F, under Captain Templeton. Before daylight on the 18th of August, the troops were drawn up in line, and as the echoes of the parting salute were dying away, they moved out on their way southward, thus finishing the abandonment of the Powder River Country.

A CORRESPONDENT on board the *Penobscot* reports her arrival at Aspinwall, N. G., December 12th, four days from Santiago de Cuba, at which place every courtesy was shown by the Cubans, who welcomed the American flag as that which was soon to be theirs. The city, still held by the Spanish troops, with three Spanish men-of-war in the harbor, was closely invested by the Revolutionists. Disaffection was widespread in the city itself. The *Penobscot* left Havana, November 21st, having just returned from Bahia Honda, whither she had been despatched to assist the wrecked steamer *Star of the Union*, all of whose passengers, officers and crew she brought to Havana. She leaves in a few days for a cruise to windward as far as the Island of Trinidad. The following is a list of her officers: Lieutenant-Commander T. H. Eastman, commanding; Lieutenant-Commander F. I. Naill, executive officer; Master Thomas Nelson, navigator; First Assistant Engineer George W. Melville, in charge; Assistant Paymaster S. I. Hurlbut; Assistant Surgeon Lewis S. Pilcher; Second Assistant Engineers H. S. Ross, A. C. Engard; Acting Third Assistant Engineers E. McElwell, William McFaul; Midshipmen G. G. Clay, F. T. Drake, J. B. House, A. H. Parsons, W. C. Strong; Captain's Clerk, Thomas Nickerson.

THE United States steamer *Yantic* left Aspinwall on the 12th inst. to carry General Caleb Cushing, with his secretary, to Bogota, the capital. The advent of general Cushing has made much stir on the Isthmus. He is charged with a diplomatic mission, the true purpose of which we explain elsewhere. But the people of that section are not inclined to believe that he has gone simply to look after the Darien Canal scheme, though some argue that this is of itself sufficiently important to explain the advent of a special envoy from the United States Government, as the gift of the right to cut a canal across the Isthmus is equivalent to the cession to the United States of the whole State of Panama. The canal might not be over 200 feet wide, but it must be fed from many streams on both sides of it, and from large lakes or bodies of water located at a great distance from either shore. Thus the land for at least thirty miles on each side of the canal must be completely under the control of the United States; so, with the Panama Railroad on the one side, and the Darien Canal on the other in the hands of the United States, the whole State would be virtually in its hands, and it might as well be so legally.

LAST week orders were received at the Navy-yard that the *Narragansett* should be placed in commission and fitted for sea immediately. The *Narragansett* will join the West India squadron, and will leave this port about the end of next month.

THE NAVY.

THE Editor would be pleased to receive for this Department of the JOURNAL all facts of interest to the Navy, especially such as relate to the movements of officers or vessels.

VARIOUS NAVAL MATTERS.

THE *Cyane* is still at Panama, also the British war steamer *Chameleon*.

The *Saginaw*, Commander, R. W. Mead, Jr., sailed from San Francisco on Dec. 1st, bound for Sitka, Alaska Territory.

The *Nipsic*, fourth-rate, six guns, commanded by Lieutenant-Commander Thomas O. Selfridge, arrived at Port au Prince, Hayti, on the 4th instant.

At the date of our latest advices from the Asiatic squadron the flagship *Piscataqua* and the *Ashuelot* at Wosung. The other vessels of the squadron were in Japanese waters and at the South, the *Oneida* and the *Maumee* being at Yokohama.

Mr. Wright, an American merchant at Rio Janeiro, was married in St. Luke's church, Washington, on the 21st instant, to Miss Lotta, daughter of Admiral Poor, United States Navy. The party left immediately for New York en route for Brazil.

ALL the light vessels in the service of the Light-house Board have been removed from their location on the Northern coast to localities where they will not be endangered from drift ice. The can and nun buoys have also been removed, from like precaution, and their places have been temporarily supplied with spars.

A TELEGRAPH from Lisbon, dated December 21st, announces the arrival there of the news that Rear-Admiral Davis, with several vessels of his fleet, had gone up the river Parana to Asuncion, accompanied by the American Minister, Mr. McMahon, to demand satisfaction from the Paraguayan government for outrages against the American flag.

THERE was a movement among the Revenue officials at New Orleans, to seize the iron-clads recently sold to the Peruvian Government, because they had cleared from New York under merchantmen papers, and appeared at New Orleans in the character of Peruvian iron-clads. The movement was stopped by orders from Washington.

A MEETING of the Farragut Prize Association was held at Philadelphia last week. A letter from Admiral Farragut was read, stating that he was doing all in his power to forward the claims of his men for prize money for the capture of New Orleans. Other letters were read from naval officers who participated in said capture. The meeting adjourned to meet on the 1st of January.

A COMMISSION of naval officers, named by the government, to bring the monitors belonging to Peru in the United States to this country, has left Peru for New York. The question of these monitors has been warmly discussed there, and as Peruvians are convinced that a great deal of underground work took place in their purchase, the nation will only feel secure when they are at anchor in the bay of Callao.

WORKMEN engaged in excavating for a drain in the Brooklyn Navy-yard, last week, when at a distance of about a hundred feet from high-water mark, came to a collection of human remains. They were, doubtless, the bones of some of the martyrs of the Wallabout prison-ships. The skulls were in excellent order, and several of the skeletons were in good preservation, presenting the entire frames. Commodore Godon gave notice to the Mayor, who in turn ordered that the remains be deposited in the vault on Hudson avenue, near York street, with those of the other Revolutionary martyrs.

A LETTER from Lima, November 23d, says that the United States steamer *Waterloo* was sold at public auction some days since for 5,700 soles. She was bought in for our own government, as no acceptable bids were made, but will be again offered for sale during this week. An endeavor was made to induce Colonel Balta to buy her guns for Peru, but as that country has an unlimited supply of that necessary firearm, he refused. The *Poucharan* was to leave for the South November 25th, together with the *Nyaek* and *Kearsarge*, and the *Dacota*, from Valparaiso, was daily expected, to remain at this station.

THE seventeenth anniversary of the New York nautical school was held on the evening of Tuesday, Dec. 22d. This society claims to have educated since its opening over 6,000 seamen, 2,000 of whom were officers in the Navy during the war. Those who study in the school receive practical instruction. Every Monday evening a free lecture is delivered upon some subject of interest to mariners. During the past year fifty-two seamen have been educated, 1,800 have attended the lectures, and 25,000 pages of reading matter have been distributed. The society is sustained entirely by voluntary contributions.

THE *Shamokin*, which arrived at Norfolk a few days ago, had on board a number of prisoners under sentence by a court-martial for mutiny and disobedience. She is to bring them to this port. The following was the list of her officers at last report: Commander, David L. Braine; Lieutenant-Commander, B. P. Smith; Lieutenant, G. M. McClure; Master, S. H. Baker; Acting Master, Gilbert Morton; Acting Ensigns, Robert Sheppard and Francis Suttle; Mates, Thomas M. Nelson and Henry Sebley; Surgeon, Henry M. Welles; Paymaster, Edward Belloves; Acting First Assistant Engineer, C. W. Crank; Second Assistant Engineers, H. D. Sellman, L. W. Robinson, Andrew Blythe and R. T. Bennett.

THE case of the British blockade runner *Wren* promises to rival that of the Erie Railroad in its legal complications. The Supreme Court ordered her release on the ground that she was not engaged in blockade running when captured by her crew. Caleb Cushing libelled the proceeds of the steamer's sales in the treasury, as

the property of the Confederate States; and in case it should be held to be the property of Laird & Co., Cushing also libelled it in behalf of the owners of a Newburyport ship destroyed by the *Alabama* which Laird & Co. had fitted out; the attorney-general ordered the release of the proceeds of the steamer without a trial, and now Senator Morrill has presented a resolution of inquiry to the Senate which may be considered as libelling the attorney-general, by implication.

WE have an account of the celebration of Thanksgiving in Dresden, Saxony, by the Americans temporarily sojourning in that delightful town, which has, of late years, become a sort of American headquarters. General Parsons, of St. Louis, responded to the toast to "the Army," and Commodore Worden to "the Navy," the latter being greeted with great enthusiasm. The dinner was served in the Hotel de Saxe, and we are told that "champagne flowed like water, and, consequently, all tongues were loosed and a babel of sounds arose." During the dinner a congratulatory dispatch was received by telegraph from the Americans at dinner in Freiburg, and similar ones were dispatched to Freiburg, Berlin and Frankfurt-on-Maine. In the evening, after dinner was over, a grand ball took place.

THE United States Senate has confirmed the following nominations, most of them being regular promotions: Commodore Charles H. Poor to be Rear-Admiral; Captains George F. Emmons and Edward Middleton, to be Commodores; Commanders Richard J. Renshaw and Johnson B. Creighton, to be Captains; Lieutenant Commanders Joseph P. Fife and Richard W. Meade, Jr., and Robert Boyd, Jr., to be Commanders; Lieutenants N. W. Dyer, Francis M. Green, Edward Hooper, Henry H. Goringe, Alonzo W. Muldam and Charles O'Neil, to be Lieutenant-Commanders; A. S. Taylor and James M. T. Young, to be First Lieutenants, and Edward T. Bradford to be Second Lieutenant in the Marine Corps; Thomas C. Walton and Theodor Wolverton, to be Surgeons; D. B. Batstone and W. F. A. Torbert, to be Paymasters.

THE following is given as the correct statement concerning the pending negotiations for the right of way of the Isthmus of Darien Canal: The negotiations have not been conducted at Washington, but at Bogota, between the United States minister and the Columbian government. There have been two sets of negotiations pending: First—The company formed to dig the canal applied in proper form to the Columbian government for the concession of the right of way. Second—The United States interested itself in behalf of this company, and in order to secure the establishment of the canal, and to protect it, entered into negotiations for a treaty similar to the one recently signed between Nicaragua and the United States. The negotiations have not, from some unexplained cause, made as much progress as our Secretary of State desired, and this condition of affairs decided him to send Mr. Caleb Cushing to Bogota with the necessary power, to effect an early settlement of the entire question.

THE Philadelphia *Inquirer* says that on Saturday last the difficulties connected with the transfer of the League Island property (the site of the national naval depot) from its former owners to the city of Philadelphia were all removed, after considerable time spent in settling the matter up, and the Mayor signed the deeds as the representative of the city. The city has now an undisputed title to the property, and this week the committee who have had the affair in charge will visit Washington and formally present the deeds to the United States Government. The transfer to the city was virtually consummated a few days since, and the abstract of the title was forwarded to Attorney-General Evarts, who pronounced the title perfectly clear, but the matter was not finally settled until the deeds again reached Philadelphia on Saturday and received the Mayor's signature. It will be remembered that the transfer of this property to the city was greatly delayed by the owners of land on the north side of the back channel demanding an exorbitant price for their property, and also some trouble was occasioned in the settling up of the Harris property, on the island.

ADVICES from the Sandwich Islands are to the effect that Kekuanoo, the father of the present king, Kamehameha V., died on the 24th of November. The body lay in state until the 28th. The flags of the foreign consulates, and of the shipping in the harbor were displayed at half-mast, and the United States steamship *Ossipee* fired minute guns during the day. The twenty-fifth anniversary of the Hawaiian independence occurred on the 28th of November. A salute was fired from the Panch-bowl battery, but otherwise the usual public demonstrations were omitted, on account of the death of the father of the king. On the reception of the news at Honolulu of Grant's election, the American residents celebrated the event by a torch-light procession. Flags were displayed from the shipping in the harbor and from most of the flag-staffs in the city. Advices from the island of Hawaii state that a heavy shock of earthquake occurred on the 16th of November, and there were frequent shocks in the latter part of that month. At times the air was filled with sparks from Mauna Loa, which volcano is again active. A Honolulu correspondent of the New York Times says that a good deal of excitement exists in the political circles of Honolulu respecting the proposed reciprocity treaty between the United States and the Sandwich Islands. "The feeling of the community is predominantly American; and this feeling had reached a very high point in July last, when the agitation of the treaty checked the growing desire for annexation to the United States. Should this treaty be ratified, it is argued that it will be more difficult and more costly than ever to procure the annexation of the islands to the United States. For the islands, so enriched, could better afford to remain independent than heretofore. Could the preferences of the people be honestly expressed as to the question of annexation to England, France, Prussia, or the United States, the vote would be overwhelmingly in favor of the latter. But the present attitude of the government is decidedly adverse to the United States. Still mindful of the frequent slights which he received,

on account of his color, during his visit to America fifteen years ago, and prejudiced by the insidious friendship of Englishmen, who have constant access to him, the fifth Kamehameha would sooner cede his kingdom to England as a gift than receive any price for it from the United States. Commercially, indeed, it may be questioned whether the islands are worth either buying or stealing. But there can be no doubt of their strategic value. The United States, already so interested in commercial enterprise upon either shore of the Pacific Ocean, should take means to prevent so important a naval station from passing into the hands of rivals, who will one day compete with them, upon this ocean, for the control of the most enormous commerce of the world. For the development and for the establishment of American supremacy in these waters, the occupation of the Hawaiian Islands by American power is all-important. A vigorous diplomacy on the part of the United States Government, looking to the acquisition of the islands at the earliest moment, is here thought to be the only means of securing them to the United States. And when they are so secured, no foreign government will be likely to contest their occupation with a naval power so well situated to command this ocean."

FOREIGN NAVAL MATTERS.

Two Austrian frigates, intended for a voyage of scientific exploration, the *Archduke Frederick* and *Donau*, carrying the flag of Rear-Admiral Petz, cast anchor at Gibraltar on the 19th November, before proceeding to Tangier.

The stoutest iron plate made is manufactured by Brown of Sheffield, has a thickness of 15 inches, and is used as armor plate. The thinnest plate is produced by Hallam & Co., and is so attenuated that 4,800 sheets of it, laid one over the other, are only 1 inch in thickness.

A BRITISH naval vessel has taken possession, for the British crown, of Starbock Island, a small island in the Pacific, about a weeks sail from the Christmas group. Search was made at the same time for two other islands whose existence was reported—Gozewen and Baumann—but no trace of them could be found at the assigned positions.

M. EUGENE Godard, the aeronaut, has been summoned to Cherbourg, by order of the Minister of Marine, to make experiments on his system of aerial telegraph on board vessels of the iron-clad squadron. This decision of the Minister is said to have been determined by the success of the trials made by M. E. Godard and his wife at the Camp of Chalons last summer.

Engineering says that "Mr. J. McFarlane Gray's system of automatic steam steering, which was found to answer so well in the *Great Eastern* has been applied successfully to H. M. S. *Northumberland*; while an engine on the same plan is now being made for the *Monarch*, and we believe that designs have been asked for several other vessels, among them, for the *Agincourt*."

OUR English contemporary, impelled thereto by the fact of the speed of the *Hercules* having been reduced two knots, by reason of fouling, asks: "What can be done to prevent the fouling of iron-clad bottoms? It is evident there is no great use in sacrificing everything to speed, if a few weeks' cruise reduces such a vessel as the *Hercules* a couple of knots an hour in home waters. What would the effect be in tropical seas, and how would it be possible to clean her in war time on distant stations? It is a very serious question."

MR. LAIRD has published the correspondence he had with Reverdy Johnson, showing the origin and course of the friendship that exists between them. Mr. Laird himself made the first advances toward friendship in October last, long before the Liverpool banquet. Mr. Laird invited Mr. Johnson to Birkenhead to see his establishment, and to hear his (Mr. Laird's) wishes for a lasting peace between England and America. Mr. Johnson, in his reply, regretted that a lack of time would prevent his acceptance of the invitation, and added the following words: "Notwithstanding you sympathized with my Southern brethren during the late war, I shall have much pleasure in making your acquaintance, and hear your sincere wishes for peace."

NAVY GAZETTE.

REGULAR NAVAL SERVICE.

ORDERED.

DECEMBER 12.—Commander W. N. Jeffers, to duty at the Naval Observatory.

Lieutenant-Commander C. L. Huntington, to duty at League Island, Pa.

First Assistant Engineer J. T. Hawkins, Second Assistant Engineer M. N. Knowlton, and Third Assistant Engineer Harrison Spear, to duty on board the *Narragansett* on January 15th next.

Lieutenant-Commander Lewis Clark, to duty on board the receiving ship *Ohio*, on December 31st.

Lieutenant C. F. Train, to duty at the Naval Observatory on December 31st.

Passed Assistant Surgeon D. R. Bauman, to duty at the Philadelphia Navy-yard on December 31st.

DECEMBER 14.—Lieutenant-Commander S. W. Terry, to duty on board the receiving ship *Vermont*.

Ensign F. H. Parker, to duty at the Naval Station, Mound City, Ill.

DECEMBER 15.—Surgeon Henry C. Nelson, to temporary duty on board the *Michigan*, relieving Surgeon R. C. Dean, who has been granted leave of absence.

DECEMBER 17.—Commander Trevett Abbott, to command the *Fantic*.

Paymaster George L. Davis, to duty as paymaster of the Boston Navy-yard.

DETACHED.

DECEMBER 12.—Master G. E. Ide, from duty on board the *Vermont* on the 31st inst., and ordered to the *Narragansett*.

Ensign W. H. Webb, from duty at the Naval Station, Mound City, Ill., and ordered to the *Narragansett*.

Ensign W. C. Gibson, from duty on board the *Polomac*, and ordered to the *Narragansett*.

Lieutenant-Commander Robert Boyd, from command of the *Fantic*.

Ensign Thomas G. Grove, from duty at the Naval Station, Mound City, Ill., and ordered to the *Tallapoosa*.

Ensign J. C. Morong, from duty at the Naval Station, League Island, Pa., and ordered to the *Tallapoosa*.

Ensign A. B. Carter, from duty on board the receiving ship *Polomac*, and ordered to the *Tallapoosa*.

Surgeon Samuel Jackson, from duty as fleet surgeon of the South Pacific Squadron, and placed on waiting orders.

Paymaster J. George Harris, from duty as paymaster of the Boston Navy-yard, and ordered to settle his accounts.

DECEMBER 18.—Passed Assistant Surgeon E. C. Vermeulen, from duty at the Philadelphia Navy-yard, and ordered to the *Tallapoosa* on December 24th.

ORDERS REVOKED.

DECEMBER 15.—Assistant Surgeon S. W. Latta, to duty on board the *Richmond*, and he is ordered to duty on board the receiving ship *Ohio*.

RESIGNED.

DECEMBER 17.—Lieutenant-Commander M. S. Stuyvesant.

VOLUNTEER NAVAL SERVICE.

DETACHED.

DECEMBER 16.—Mate George J. Harris, from duty on board the receiving ship *Vermont*, and ordered to the *Narragansett* on January 15th next.

Mates N. Anderson and Charles Gainsford, from duty on board the *Cyane*, and ordered to the *Narragansett* on January 15th next.

Acting Second Assistant Engineer T. J. W. Cooper, from duty on board the *Canandaigua*.

GRANTED LEAVE FOR DISCHARGE.

DECEMBER 12.—Acting Second Assistant Engineer G. W. Whittemore.

MUSTERED OUT.

DECEMBER 12.—Acting Third Assistant Engineer W. J. Paul.

DECEMBER 15.—Acting Master Thomas Stothard.

HONORABLY DISCHARGED.

The following named Volunteer Naval officers have been honorably discharged from the service of the United States since last report:

Acting Volunteer Lieutenant G. W. Rogers, from December 15th.

Acting Masters, William Barrymore, from December 13th, and George T. Ford, from December 15th.

Acting Ensigns J. W. Almy and C. H. Armstrong, from December 15th, Paul Boyden, from the 18th, A. F. Ulmer and John Lowrie, from the 18th, and Lewis Kenney, from the 19th.

Acting Assistant Surgeons Reuben Smith, from December 13th, and J. F. Tourtellotte, from December 15th.

LIST OF DEATHS.

In the Navy of the United States, which have been reported to the Chief of the Bureau of Medicine and Surgery for the week ending December 19, 1868:

John Murphy, marine, December 4th, Navy-yard, Portsmouth, N. H.

James Tait, seaman, August 13th, U. S. steamer *Waterloo*, Arica, Peru.

Henry Collum, coal-heaver, September 30th, American Hospital, Valparaiso.

Richard R. Folwell, quartermaster, October 30th, U. S. steamer *Pouahatan*.

John H. Hunt first assistant engineer, November 21st, Navy-yard, Mare Island, Cal.

John Stewart, alias Edward G. Stewart, marine, December 17th, Iosano Hospital, Washington City.

COMMANDER JOHN G. MITCHELL.

THE death of this promising young officer, by violence, in the early prime of manhood, is a public calamity. The community has lost a citizen of incorruptible integrity and the nicest sense of honor; our gallant Navy one of its most efficient and talented young officers, and the country one of its bravest defenders. He was, emphatically, a self-made man. He was left an orphan at six years of age, and had no father's wealth or powerful friends to secure him position and notoriety; but he had integrity, intelligence and industry—he had high and noble aspirations, and perseverance that never yielded to discouragement. While he was enthusiastically devoted to his profession, and scrupulously faithful to every trust connected with it, he was a hard student, and made himself one of the best mathematicians in the service or country. Last, but not least, he was a conscientious Christian.

Commander Mitchell was born in Nantucket, Mass., March 17, 1836, and at the time of his murder was a little over 32 years of age. He was, on his own application, appointed to the Naval Academy in his fourteenth year, passing a highly creditable examination. At the close of his first academic year he was ordered to the United States frigate *St. Lawrence*, on a cruise to the Mediterranean. His expertness in theoretical and practical navigation now became known. In 1853 he was ordered to the brig *Dolphin*, Captain O. H. Berryman, to take deep sea soundings across the Northern Atlantic. The fidelity and efficiency with which he performed his duty as an officer, and the value placed upon his services in this difficult and important survey of the bottom of the ocean, may be seen from Captain Berryman's communication to the Hon. Board of Examiners, Feb. 21, 1854:

Midshipman Mitchell's proficiency in seamanship and navigation is deserving the favorable notice of the Board, and his faithful performance of the duties of a watch officer, as well as the arduous and responsible labor of taking very nearly all of the deep sea soundings, during a cruise of five or six months from one side of the Atlantic to the other, has won not only my confidence and admiration, but that of our distinguished naval associate, Lieutenant M. F. Maury. His moral character is without blemish, and his studious habits ensure to the service an accomplished officer.

In a note to Captain Sterett, of the *Decatur*, dated Naval Observatory, March 16, 1854, Lieutenant M. F. Maury says: "Midshipman Mitchell is one of the best and most experienced officers in the matter of deep sea soundings, that has ever worked for us." This is a high compliment for a young man not yet 18.

The *Decatur*, to which young Mitchell was then attached, was ordered to the Pacific, in company with the steamer *Massachusetts*, in 1854, and directed, if possible, to pass through the Straits of Magellan. This was a difficult achievement for so large a vessel. Soon after leaving Rio they encountered a terrific gale, which separated the two vessels, and disabled the *Massachusetts* so seriously that she was obliged to return. She fired signal guns repeatedly, and receiving no response, reported the *Decatur* as probably lost. Many, doubtless, remember the deep gloom the supposed fate of the *Decatur* spread over the country. For five long months the loved ones on board were mourned as buried in a watery

grave. But, at length, through the sleepless vigilance and almost superhuman exertions of her officers and crew, the noble ship came out of the Straits victorious.

In September, 1855, young Mitchell was ordered home to complete his course at the Naval Academy. Notwithstanding his long absence and wanderings upon the seas, he graduated in June, 1856, with high honor; his attainments being second to none in his class. Immediately after his graduation Captain Berryman applied again to the Department for the assistance of Mr. Mitchell as "master" in taking soundings across the Atlantic with reference to laying the great marine telegraph.

The delicate and difficult task of taking these soundings and working them up, was committed to the immediate supervision of Lieutenant Mitchell. We need not say that the work was a decided success. It settled the great question as to the practicability of laying the telegraphic cable which binds the continents together and is destined soon to encircle the globe.

After a short visit to his friends he was ordered to the Pacific, where he spent the next four years in active service on the *St. Mary's* and the *Active*, Captain Alden, engaged in the coast survey, for which his experience and mathematical attainments were admirable qualifications.

In the spring of 1860, he was appointed Assistant Professor of Mathematics at the United States Naval Academy. As a teacher he was earnest, thorough and successful.

At the commencement of the war, April, 1861, he immediately asked for active service, and was ordered to the flag-ship *Minnesota*, under Commodore Stringham, in the blockade of the Southern ports. In the early part of that eventful summer, Mr. M. had the honor of bringing the first blockade runner into New York. Leaving his charge in the hands of the prize-master, he returned at once to the flag-ship. From the *Minnesota* he was transferred to the *Santee*, Captain Eagle, to cruise in the Gulf of Mexico. While here, Lieutenants Mitchell and Jewett obtained leave to make an attack upon the *Royal Yacht*, an armed vessel then lying under the guns of the fort at Galveston, each having a boat's crew of picked men. They drew up to the yacht in the stillness of the night and boarded her, finding her deck covered with men sleeping upon their arms. At the first alarm the men sprang to their feet, and with sabres and bayonets, attempted to drive back their assailants. The conflict was sharp and, for the moment, the issue seemed doubtful. Soon, however, victory crowned the exertions of our young heroes. Jewett was severely wounded in the struggle. Having secured their prisoners and destroyed the yacht,* they returned in triumph to the ship, loaded with *spolia opima*. The young officers were both highly complimented by the department for this act of daring and skill.

At the close of the summer, 1862, the *Santee* returned North for repairs, when Lieutenant M. was married to Miss M. E. Junkin, the daughter of Rev. D. X. Junkin, D. D., late chaplain of the Navy. Soon after his marriage he was ordered to the Ordnance Department at Washington. In the following spring he was assigned to the command of the *Commodore Jones*, to cruise on the James and York Rivers, where he rendered important service. Early in 1864 he was transferred to the command of the *Carondelet*, to operate on the Mississippi and Red Rivers. The peril of the gun-boats from the rapid and unexpected fall of the Red River, is familiar to every body. The *Carondelet*, Captain Mitchell, is said to have been the second vessel which eluded the enemy's grasp by running the gauntlet down the rapids, which, but for the far-famed improvised dam, were utterly impassable.

Subsequently Captain Mitchell had the charge of that division of the Mississippi squadron which guarded the river from Cairo to Memphis. While in this important position he was often approached by dazzling offers from those who wished to trade with the enemy, and more than once might have made himself rich, as the world counts riches. But his integrity was unswerving and unsullied. He disdained alike the offers and those who made them. To him a good name was of greater value than ill-gotten riches.

In the summer of 1866 he was ordered to the *Pensacola*, as executive officer, under the immortal Worden of *Monitor* fame, and steamed for the Pacific about the middle of September. He took the *Pensacola* successfully through the intricate Straits of Magellan. After his arrival at San Francisco he was detached from the *Pensacola* and placed in command of the *Saginaw*. In this vessel he cruised for several months in the Gulf of California and on the west coast of Mexico. His services in protecting commerce, while on this station, elicited the thanks of the merchants of Mazatlan and distinguished men, both American and Mexican. Early last spring, he was ordered with the *Saginaw*, to Alaska, for the purpose of exploring its harbors, rivers, etc., where he performed important service in regard to that newly acquired territory. Through the aid of Indians he discovered extensive coal mines, from which he supplied his own ship, and which will, hereafter, add hundreds of millions, not only to our own commerce, but also to that of the civilized world. The results of his explorations of that country amply vindicate the wisdom of its purchase. Lieutenant-Commander Meade, nephew of General Meade, was ordered to relieve him, and sailed on the 16th of October, for that purpose. Mr. Mitchell had come down to San Francisco to meet him, and expected to return immediately to his family and friends, who had been anxiously looking forward to the time when they might welcome him once more to their arms. But, instead of his beaming eye and cheerful voice, came the sad, crushing tidings of his murder.

The career of Lieutenant-Commander John G. Mitchell was ended in San Francisco, October 21, 1868. He was preserved in war, amid dangers to which he was often exposed, to be stricken down by murderous hands in time of peace. We leave the perpetrators of this cowardly deed in the hands of the law.

* This is said to have been the first armed vessel captured by our Navy in the war.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Our correspondents are informed that communications intended for our columns, to receive prompt attention, should be invariably addressed to THE EDITOR of the ARMY AND NAVY JOURNAL, Box 3,201, New York.

THE SAILOR'S HYMN.

CHAPLAIN Henry B. Hibben, U. S. Navy, sends us the following from the U. S. flag-ship *Pensacola*, off Mazatlan, Mexico, November, 1868. The allusion to Old Creston's elephantine form, will be understood by all who have ever seen the towering rocky island off Mazatlan, remarkable for its striking resemblance to a giant elephant, when observed from the sea:

THINE are the trackless fields of light,
And Thine the pathless sea;
These, as opposing mirrors bright,
Reflect Infinity!
O God, while round me flashing, sweep
The waters of the restless deep,
I lift my heart to Thee.

Old Creston's elephantine form,
With quiet dignity,
At noon and night, in calm and storm,
Looks proudly o'er the sea;
And as I watch the swelling tide,
Surge hoarsely 'gainst its rock-ribbed side,
I lift my heart to Thee.

The sunset bathes its rocky peak
And flashes o'er the sea,
Red as the crimson in the cheek
Of virgin modesty;
But while I gaze, the trembling light
Grows pale. Beneath the shades of night
I lift my heart to Thee.

Our ship, at anchor off Creston,
Rolls on the swelling sea;
As twilight fades and night comes on,
In solemn majesty,
While gazing on the radiant star,
That follows close the "day-god's" car,
I lift my heart to Thee.

With reverence unfeigned, I stand,
And hear the ocean's roar;
The thunder from the distant strand,
The surf-beat rocky shore.
I feel Thy awful presence here,
And humbly, and with filial fear,
I lift my heart to Thee.

Thou send'st the fearful earthquake shock,
Like doom of destiny—
The firm earth's rooted pillars rock—
It lifts the mighty sea!
Oh God, in that appalling hour,
How weak and vain is human power!
Then, none can save but Thee.

A VIRGINIAN ANSWERED.

U. S. REVENUE STEAMER MOSSWOOD,
EASTPORT, MAINE, Dec. 14, 1868.

To Editor of the Army and Navy Journal.

SIR: Will you allow me in your valuable paper to correct a statement of the "Virginian" whose letter was published in a recent number of the *Daily News*, Savannah, Ga., and also in your last issue, regarding the crossing of the Rappahannock at the battle of Fredericksburg, commencing December 11, 1862. He says that on the morning of the 11th December, the enemy (as he calls us) attempted to swing a pontoon bridge laden with troops. Whoever saw a pontoon bridge laden with troops *swinging* across a rapid river, partially covered with ice? I presume he means the bridge just above the Lacy House, in front of the town. It is true, that the attempt to lay the bridge was made early in the morning, while the river was covered with fog; although there were no troops upon it, with the exception of the working parties of the Fiftieth New York Engineers, who were killed or disabled by the fire of Barksdale's Mississippians who were hidden in cellars, behind fences or even behind an old boat, as many of my comrades will remember, and that the artillery fire, of course, failed to dislodge them, although inflicting a good deal of damage upon the houses over their heads. At about 3 P. M. General Burnside, finding that it was impossible to complete the bridge, came down in person to the Lacy House, and after consultation with the officers present, called for volunteers to cross the river in the boats and drive the enemy from their shelter, so that the bridge could be completed. He called upon the Third Brigade, Second Corps, Dana's old brigade, Sedgwick's old peninsular division (not altogether unknown in the history of the Army of the Potomac) consisting of the Nineteenth and Twentieth Massachusetts, Seventh Michigan, Forty-second and Fifty-ninth New-York, mustering in all about seven hundred men, less than one full regiment. The rest were lying all the way from Yorktown, Fair Oaks, White Oak Swamp, Malvern Hill, South Mountain, and Antietam.

The brigade volunteered as one man, and detachments of the Seventh Michigan, Nineteenth and Twentieth Massachusetts, crossed at once and cleared the opposite bank. The Nineteenth Massachusetts and Seventh Michigan were deployed as skirmishers on the right and left of the street opposite the proposed end of the bridge, while the Twentieth Massachusetts marched up the street in column of company, and at the intersection of Queen Anne and Princess Charlotte streets, if I remember rightly the names, the rebels opened fire upon us from front, flank and rear, from housetops, cellars, win-

dows and fences. It was there the chaplain, Arthur Fuller, of the Sixteenth Massachusetts, was killed within arm's length of the writer. The Twentieth Massachusetts lost 102 men in the space of twenty minutes.

While this street fighting was going on, the bridge was finished and fresh troops were sent across to relieve us, and the enemy were driven out of the town altogether. The "Virginian" evidently was not there. As our bridge was not broken by any artillery fire of the rebels (as he says) although they had a good range down the street, but was delayed by the fire of concealed riflemen who could not be dislodged by our artillery. As for the night attack, although we were torn, bleeding and demoralized, I venture to say they would have met with a reception that would have made them hunt their shirts in double quick. And the crossing after all was not made at night *below* the town at Deep Run, but in front of the town in broad daylight.

ONE OF THE VOLUNTEERS.

EPIDEMICS AMONG HORSES.

FORT CONCHO, TEXAS, December 6, 1868.

To the Editor of the Army and Navy Journal.

SIR: In the ARMY AND NAVY JOURNAL of November 7th, I found a notice that in Secunderabad, in the East Indies, a serious epidemic disease has broken out among the cavalry and artillery horses of the British detachments stationed there, and which seems to be of "typhoid character."

During the last two winters, I have had the opportunity, in Western Texas, where I am serving as regimental veterinary surgeon, Fourth Cavalry, of seeing and treating a destructive epidemic, raging, not alone among the public horses of the Government, but also among the private horses of the citizens. The origin of the Texas disease is as entirely unknown as that of the East Indian epidemic, but is nearly as destructive, and, as I believe, similar to the latter. The Texas epidemic appears suddenly, without any premonitory symptoms.

My experience of it enables me to make known the following symptoms, which I noticed in about one hundred cases, viz.: Loss of appetite, costiveness, and the dung covered with the mucous secretion from the intestines, general uneasiness and incontinence of urine; the breath smells disagreeably, pulse full and quick in the beginning, afterward more scanty and hard, decreasing almost entirely to the touch.

The heart beats violently, respiration quicker than natural, and hoarseness quite apparent. Sensibility becomes blunted; one or the other of the eyes becomes blind, and, finally, staggering and almost complete loss of control of motion ensues. The animal now invariably falls to the ground trembling, and spasmodic symptoms become developed, and a profuse perspiration prevails until death.

Some of the above symptoms are closely analogous to "blind staggers" (phrenitis), and this is the reason why it is known under this name by the whole population of Texas; but the blindness and staggering are produced, in my judgment, by the paralysis of the eighth pair of nerves (parvagus).

The duration of the disease is very brief; it carries its victims off generally in from six to twenty-four hours, if prompt treatment is not administered.

Dissection reveals the following conditions: The veins show well-marked congestion; the intestines are ulcerated and the mucous lining separated, and generally pass off with the faeces. The stomach is full of chyme in an improperly digested condition, and the mucous portion shows signs of acute inflammation; the liver is always found to be disorganized, and in a congested and friable condition. The thoracic viscera also are in an equally unhealthy state; the brain is more than ordinarily congested, without disorganization or watery effusion.

The causes of this disease are entirely unknown; whether they are dependent on epidemic or enzootic influences has not been satisfactorily ascertained. They may, probably, be only peculiar to certain classes of animals, and known in veterinary practice as epizootic or genus epidemicum. The prognosis only favorable when early treatment is adopted; if late, nothing can save the animal.

All these facts show a very near relation to the same epidemic prevailing at Secunderabad, viz.: the sudden appearance, the febrile character, and that the infection cannot be anticipated; also that the symptoms succeed each other with the same rapidity, and the animal dies in about the same time. Nearly similar are the results from the *post mortem* examination.

I can state, that by early treatment at the very moment the attack is noticed, I have saved in the winter of 1866 and '67, in sixty-five cases at Fort Mason, Texas, my station, one-third of them, and in the winter of 1867 and 1868 at Post Camp Verde, Texas, my next station, in thirty-four cases, about two-thirds. The disease generally breaks out in November or December and disappears March following.

In my official reports, I stated the above mentioned facts and my belief that the disease is nothing else than a "typhoid fever;" and I now believe that the epidemic which prevails in Texas is *similar* in character to that of East India, which is said to be of a typhoid character.

PAUL NITSCHKE,

Veterinary Surgeon, Fourth Cavalry.

NAPOLEON'S CORRESPONDENCE.

THE Paris correspondent of our English cotemporary, speaking of a volume of the correspondence of Napoleon the Grand, which has recently appeared, says:

In the last volume of Napoleon's correspondence there are many letters interesting to the military reader; it would repay any soldier his time to peruse the 500 pages of letters contained in any of the 25 volumes now printed. These letters give you a wonderful idea of Napoleon's rapidity of conception, and the masterly manner in which he handled immense masses of troops; he always appears to know the exact position of every man

in his Army. The present volume treats of 1813, when the disaster of the Russian campaign was beginning to be felt. Prussia again raised her head and declared war against France, and Austria retained a neutral position, which changed into a hostile one when Napoleon absolutely refused to give up his conquests and retire behind the Rhine, the Alps, and the Pyrenees; his Majesty, in fact, declined to accept as the limits of France those boundaries which Frenchmen of the present day will probably fight for. The following letter written on the 4th of March, 1813, to General Duroc, reads strangely now-a-days:

"I beg you will let me know if my palaces of Strasbourg and Mayence are in good order; they may be of use to me, either for myself or for some families of princes of the Confederation which may take refuge there."

"NAPOLEON."

And this letter, also written a few days later to Eugene Beauharnois, Viceroy of Italy and Commander-in-chief of the grand army at Leipsic. The Emperor says that he suspects Prussia is about to cease her alliance, and then adds: "Do not forget that Prussia has only 4,000,000 inhabitants. In her most prosperous times she had never more than 150,000 men, which she never failed to exaggerate into 300,000; in spite of all the King's efforts he will never be able to assemble more than 40,000 men by May." After the battle of Jena the Prussians found it impossible to get together more than 10,000 men for the winter campaign which ensued.

There are a few letters concerning Spain, where everything was going wrong. On the 16th of March, the Emperor wrote to his Minister of War: "Send a second convoy of 4,000,000 francs to Spain," which was to be divided between the armies of the north, the south, the centre, and that of Portugal. His Majesty probably regretted this money, for, twelve days later, he wrote to the same minister: "You should make the King of Spain (brother Joseph) understand that the army of Spain should exist on the country." In this same month of March Napoleon suspected that the Spanish game was up, for he approved certain measures taken for the defence of the Pyrenees, and in April he wrote an urgent dispatch, in which the King was desired to hold his enemies in check, and prevent any diversion on the French frontiers. Poor Joseph would, no doubt, have only been too glad to get rid of his enemies, but here were instructions that he was to hinder them from leaving his kingdom. The position was truly a curious one, but at the same time the fall of brother Napoleon would, of course, necessitate that of brother Joseph.

The following brief epistle is odd to read, now that France has set Italy on her own legs. It is addressed to Count Aldini:

"I beg you will write to my Minister of War for the kingdom of Italy to send you every ten days an exact state of the Army, and to keep you acquainted with the operations relative to the conscription."

"NAPOLEON."

Of all the sovereigns who expressed admiration for Napoleon, the King of Saxony was perhaps the only one whose devotion was constant. He stood by Napoleon even when his army deserted the Emperor's cause at Leipsic, and this attachment was remembered by France the other day, after Sadowa. Napoleon III. pleaded the cause of King John out of gratitude for the conduct of Frederick-Augustus. The subjoined characteristic letter was addressed to the King of Saxony from Mayence in April, 1813:

"Monsieur my Brother: Your Majesty's letter caused me pain. You have no more friendship for me, and I accuse persons who are, perhaps, in your Cabinet, of being the enemies of our cause. I want all your cavalry and all your officers. I said all I thought, with that frankness you know I possess, to your aide-de-camp. Under no matter what circumstances, your Majesty can count on my esteem, etc."

"NAPOLEON."

The Emperor commences a dispatch, wiggling his Minister of War, General Clarke, in this manner:

"I have just reviewed the Thirty-seventh regiment: it would be impossible to see a finer body of men and worse officers. If your office had tried to appoint the most inept officers in France it could not have succeeded better; they are all drawn from colonial battalions and national guard, and have never been under fire. These officers are the laughing-stock of the men. Every day I am more and more dissatisfied with the way in which the most important branch of your department, the organization, is carried on," etc.

After the battle of Lutzen the Emperor Napoleon spoke in very different terms of the Russians than when he embraced Alexander on the raft on the Niemen. In a proclamation to the Army he now called the troops of the Czar "the apostles of crime," and added:

"In a single day you have defeated their plots. You will fling back these Tartars into the frightful climate which they should never leave. Let them remain in their deserts of ice, abode of slavery, barbarism and corruption, where man is debased to the level of the brute."

During the campaign of 1813, Napoleon lost his two favorite marshals, Bessieres, Duke of Istria, and Duroc, Duke of Frioul. Duroc attracted Napoleon's affection on account of his fidelity and callousness. "I believe that man never shed a tear," said the Emperor once. His Majesty alludes to his death in a letter addressed to the Countess of Montesquieu, which runs thus:

"I see with pleasure that my son continues to grow and give hopes. I can only testify the satisfaction which I feel at the care you take of him. The death of the Duke of Frioul has grieved me; this is the first time that he has failed to please me in twenty years."

"NAPOLEON."

On the subject of the famous performances which took place in 1813 at Dresden, when Talma played before an audience of kings, one finds the following letter written to Cambaceres.

"My Cousin: Write to Count Remusat for comedians for Dresden. I desire that this should make a noise in Paris, because that will create an effect in London and in Spain by causing it to be believed that we are amusing ourselves, etc."

"NAPOLEON."

MILITARY OFFICERS IN CIVIL OFFICES.

THE New York Times comments wisely and intelligently on the Senator Edmunds's bill, to which we made brief reference last week:

Senator Edmunds has introduced a bill to prohibit any officer of the Army or Navy from holding a civil office. What the precise motive for the bill may be, we do not know. If it is to prevent the drawing of double salaries, that object is already attained by existing laws. No military officer, appointed to a civil office, can draw the salaries of both positions. If its purpose is to require an army officer to resign before taking a civil office, we see no special objection to the law—nor any special necessity for it.

But if its object is to exclude officers of the Army and Navy from the list of candidates for civil office, it seems to us detrimental to the public service, and unjust to the distinguished officer of the Army whom the people have just placed at the head of the civil service. If General Grant should see fit to continue General Schofield in the War Department and to appoint Farragut or Porter Secretary of the Navy, Congress ought not to interpose, by special legislation, to prevent him from doing so. His judgment and his action in the matter should be left untrammelled. Both those departments are, to a certain extent, technical in their duties and their character; and it may be that General Grant will think that their duties can best be performed by men who have had training and experience in the special matters which belong to them.

We can easily understand why the large class of professional politicians who assume the exclusive task of governing the country, should object to putting these great departments into the hands of military or naval officers. The distribution of their patronage, the making of their contracts and the disbursement of the large sums of money at their command, will be better managed by politicians than by professional men—the politicians themselves being judges. We may expect, therefore, a determined resistance on their part to any attempt to make an Army officer Secretary of War or a naval officer Secretary of the Navy. The whole political and party interest of the country will be arrayed against it.

The proposed bill will be equally injurious in its application to the Indian Bureau. The transfer of that Bureau to the War Department will be of little advantage if all its present machinery of Indian agents, superintendents, etc., are to be transferred with it. The great utility of the measure lies in getting rid of all this, and in having the duties now assigned to the vast army of office-holders created for the purpose, performed by the army officers on duty at the various Indian posts, who have become familiar in the discharge of their regular duties, with the various Indian tribes with whom they have to deal.

These army officers ought to be the agents and superintendents through whom the Government distributes its gifts and makes its arrangements with the Indian tribes. They can do it more intelligently; they are less likely to be interested in jobs and schemes of fraud; they have more of the confidence and respect of the Indians, and are in every way better fitted to perform these duties than the agents sent out by the Government for that special service. We should be very sorry to have any law passed which should prevent the War Department or the President from securing the services of the officers of our Army in this capacity.

Indeed, we see no necessity whatever for any laws which shall interfere with the independent judgment and discretion of the President, in his selection of subordinates for carrying on the Executive Department of the Government.

THE NATIONAL SAILORS' HOME.

THE Boston Evening Traveller publishes the following communication from a Philadelphia correspondent. We are assured on good authority that the management of the Home has been greatly neglected, and we therefore reprint the article with a view of calling attention to this subject, and in order to lead to a correction of any abuses which may now exist:

When the fair was inaugurated in November, 1864, with a view to obtain a fund for the purpose of establishing a home for national sailors, who, through their services to the nation in war, had become incompetent to provide a home for themselves, I understood—and I believe it was generally understood—the enterprise was to be common to the loyal people of the nation, and that in no sense was it to be limited to the people of any one of the States. Nor were its benefits, if successful, to be limited to the citizens of any State. But after the fair had been held and a quarter of a million of dollars had been secured, a local character was in some way imposed upon the effort. The managers placed the entire control of the fund in a local board of trustees, all men of Massachusetts, although we all know that liberal contributions to it were obtained from many sources beyond the boundaries of that State.

According to my understanding of the subject, Massachusetts has no right, above any other State, to locate the National Sailor's Home. But as far as I am informed, nobody of the contributors in other States was consulted on the subject. The trustees, no doubt, believing that they were acting judiciously and for the best interests of those to be personally benefited, erected an edifice at Quincy, and opened the institution with ceremony. But from that day to this the general public has not been informed of the condition or progress of the charity. No one here, as far as I know, is aware of the rules established for admitting national sailors to this asylum. We are not told how much money is invested, in what securities, or what are the annual revenues or expenditures of the establishment.

Has the institution been efficient in affording a desir-

able home to any invalid national sailor? What has been the result of this effort to show the world that the citizens of the Republic are mindful of the brave men who perilled their lives upon the sea, and provided for those who, in their service, lost the power to provide means to keep soul and body together? It is time that the administrators of this trust should be awakened to a sense of their duties, not only to the unfortunate, but also to those who contributed, directly or indirectly, in every loyal part of the nation to this benevolent object. Those gentlemen are in error to suppose that the public are indifferent to the administration of this trust. If they are unable, through the demands of their private or personal affairs, to apply sufficient time and interest to this affair, let them resign their places, as men of sound integrity under such circumstances should do, and thus save their reputations for benevolence and honor from suspicion.

Without other information than I now possess, it seems to me the board of trustees of the funds of the National Sailors' Home have, in some results at least, neglected their plain duties.

In my humble way I was instrumental in procuring from this city and elsewhere out of Massachusetts several liberal contributions. This reason and other considerations lead me to ask how many beneficiaries have been admitted into the establishment since it was opened; how many have died there or left it; how many are in it now? How many persons are employed and paid for services in the National Sailors' Home, and at what rates they are paid?

What means are provided to insure that the superintendent, matron, attendants, cooks, nurses and others, shall perform the duties confided to them? I should be gratified to know whether their home is as happy as it can be made with the means at command?

Has the treasurer no report to make public? How are his accounts audited? Is this board of trustees a close corporation? Are they elected or appointed for life? Let us be enlightened.

Let these gentlemen understand that they, like other actors in life's drama, have an audience looking at them over the foot-lights, to observe and criticise their performance, and then I think they may, for the sake of public approbation, if no higher motive, be induced to tell in detail how speeds the institution, and whether it is or is not creditable to the sagacity and honor of the grand old State of Massachusetts and its magnificent capital, Boston, a great social centre of benevolence and intelligence of the world.

CHAPULTEPEC.

THE controversy as to who first placed an American flag on the heights of Chapultepec seems likely to take its place with the discussion as to who wrote "Rock me to Sleep," or who was the author of "The Flaunting Lie." The cause of all this is that somebody incautiously said General Read, who recently killed himself, did the gallant act, whereupon several claimants for the honor at once came forward.

The Louisville Courier in speaking on this subject says: The fact, however, that the lion-hearted Read did not first plant the colors of his regiment on Chapultepec, robs him of none of the proud laurels he won in Mexico. It was Captain Barnard, of Philadelphia, now dead, who seized the flag of the Voltigeurs and placed it in triumph on the captured works of the enemy. Read, while gallantly bearing the colors unfurled, in the progress of the charge, was struck down, dangerously wounded, and his name appeared in the first list of the killed. No man who ever knew him, doubts for a moment that, but for this, Read would have done all that Barnard accomplished.

The flag of the Voltigeurs, the same that was first planted at Chapultepec, is now in this city, and is in the possession of Isaac Caldwell, Esq., brother of Colonel George Alfred Caldwell, who, with General Joseph E. Johnston, led the assault. It is shattered and battle-torn, and even the staff shows marks of the fierce storm through which it was carried.

The reports of Generals Scott and Pillow, and Colonel Andrews, the latter the commander of the Voltigeurs, all ascribe the honor of first planting the regimental colors on Chapultepec to Captain Barnard. Ripley's history also gives Captain Barnard this credit. General Pillow says in his report:

"Colonel Andrews, whose regiment so distinguished itself and commander by this brilliant charge, as also Lieutenant-Colonel Johnson and Major Caldwell, whose activity enabled them to lead the assault, have greatly distinguished themselves by their gallantry and daring. Captain Barnard with distinguished gallantry, having seized the colors of his regiment, upon the fall of the color-bearer, scaled the wall with them unfurled, and has the honor of planting the first American standard in the works."

When the Voltigeurs were disbanded at Baltimore, a number of the interesting properties of the regiment were forwarded by General Johnson to Colonel Caldwell. Among these was the regimental flag. In some way Colonel Caldwell was enrolled in 1863 for draft, and was drafted. The law required a notice to be served on him, and that he should personally appear before the "Board of Enrolment," for release, although every member of the Board knew he was exempt from duty, both by physical disability, from chronic rheumatism, and from over age. The Board wrote him a note, in answer to a request to know whether his personal presence was necessary, in which they said that if he had reason to fear he could not get exemption, he might bring his Chapultepec flag with him to carry out to the Taylor Barracks.

In the last number of Mr. John Bourne's work, entitled "Steam, Air and Gas Engines," he ventures the prediction that engines for pumping water will, before many years, die out, and that steam-jets will take their place. The action of the steam-jet is then reasoned out at some length.

DEATH OF AN OLD NAVAL SURGEON.

DR. Usher Parsons, the last surviving commissioned officer of Commodore Perry's fleet in the memorable battle of Lake Erie, died in Providence, R. I., where he has resided for several years, at the age of 80. At the age of 23 he entered the Navy as a surgeon's mate, and immediately joined the frigate *John Adams* soon after the declaration of war in 1812. The officers and crew of the vessel volunteered for service on the lakes.

In the battle of September 10th, Dr. Parsons was the only medical officer on duty, and was on board the flagship *Lawrence*, commanded by Perry, which bore the brunt of the battle. The floor of the room in which he received the wounded was at nearly the level of the water, so that they and the surgeon were exposed to the fire of the battle, and two were killed after passing from his hands.

After the battle, the wounded from the other vessels were received on board the *Lawrence* and sent to Erie, where the Court-house was made a hospital, Dr. Parsons retaining charge of them. He was promoted to rank as full Surgeon from the day of the battle. He remained in charge of the wounded till the following May, when he was ordered on board the *Lawrence*.

In November, 1814, Dr. Parsons, at the request of Commodore Perry, was ordered by the Secretary of the Navy to the new frigate *Java*, at Baltimore, as chief surgeon of that noble vessel; he joined her in the following May, and sailed in January, 1816, for the Mediterranean. He returned in her to Boston in February, 1817, and after a year's leave of absence he was ordered to the *Guerriere*, Captain McDonough, and sailed in July, 1818, to Russia, and thence to the Mediterranean. He there obtained leave to travel for the improvement of his health, and passed the following winter in the hospitals and medical schools of Paris and London; returned in the spring, and was stationed two years in Charlestown Navy-yard. During that time he was appointed Professor of Anatomy in Dartmouth College. After a year or two he settled in general practice in Providence, and was appointed professor in Brown University. He has resided there ever since, excepting one winter spent in Philadelphia as professor in the Jefferson Medical College, and one winter in Paris and London. He resigned his commission in the Navy in 1823, having held it more than ten years. Dr. Parsons is author of several medical works, a volume on diseases of sea-faring men, first published in 1822, one on the art of making anatomical preparations, 1830, a volume of Boylston and Fiske Prize Essays, 1838. He also wrote the "Life of Sir William Pepperrell," "Sketches of the Lives of Eminent Physicians of Rhode Island," and several historical and medical pamphlets. He received the honorary degree of A. M. from Harvard and Brown, was for three years President of the Rhode Island Medical Society, and in 1853 was elected First Vice-President of the American Medical Association. His wife was a sister of Dr. Oliver Wendell Holmes, and died several years since. The funeral will take place to-morrow.

THE following is an extract from a Richmond letter to the Boston Transcript:

At Burkesville Junction the trains stopped half an hour, giving me time to renew the old memories of that locality, war memories of the time of Lee's surrender in 1865. At this depot or shed, Grant and the corps commanders dismounted after a thirty miles' ride through the rain, covered with mud, but calm and triumphant. As the great captain stood leaning up against the door of the ticket office—then used as a military telegraph room, with an unlighted cigar in his mouth—perfectly undemonstrative, yet with power in his expression, I shall never forget the peculiar look about the mouth and eyes which told of triumph, yet would suppress the telling. That was a weary group of men, and as solemn a group as I ever saw. For they had upon them the shadow as well as the glory of great deeds, and unbeknown to them, at the moment the nation was ringing its peals of joy at their achievements. They had conquered peace. All around us then were the bloody tracks of the sharp campaign, and here under this very shed were hundreds of men broken, wounded, dying, our own with those of the enemy (an enemy no longer), who were left to our care. Then the freight house opposite, where were long rows of neglected men; a building where for twelve hours two of us worked on our knees, dressing, bathing, soothing those fevered wounds. Then just beyond the railroad track, the belt of woods where my tent was pitched, near the extemporized open-air hospital, with the operating tables near at hand; where Sheridan's men were brought, whose sabre cuts showed how they had fought over those intrenchments at High Bridge and Five Forks; tents made of twisted twigs and branches, the only shelter in that week of rain. Fifteen thousand wounded men passed through our hands, and were sent on to the hospitals at City Point. Then here was the side track where that train of freight cars stood which had a thousand men packed inside and out, who needed every ministry and care, and making us feel that it was not the cup only, but a drop of cold water upon a dry and aching wound that brought its blessing as it did that day. And while this drop was given, those ringing cheers, starting the men to their feet to see Sheridan and Custer, with the forty captured flags, wheel into line before us. And then the cavalry returning full of fire; followed by the Sixth Corps that afternoon, all wild with enthusiasm, coming in on the run, waving their hats and cheering as they passed the station. Crossing the track and a ravine, they counter-marched for position upon the slopes of the hill beyond at sunset, their arms glistening in their reflected light, thirteen thousand men, whose camp fires lighted up the woods and hills beyond as night came on with a blaze of fire. And then the next day, the darkest day of the republic, when the startling news of the assassination was ticked over the wires, carrying grief and consternation everywhere. Ah! those memories! They are very sacred now, and as sweet as they are sacred; for they were of a great time of sacrifice, of glory and of grief commingled for the nation.

FOREIGN MILITARY MATTERS.

It is reported that the Black Hole of Calcutta has been at length discovered. No one has hitherto been able to ascertain the exact position of the dungeon where so many of Englishmen perished in 1756. Conjecture pointed to a spot in the southern curtain of the old fort of Calcutta, which is now being pulled down; and here a space, the exact counterpart of the Hole, has been discovered by Dr. Norman Chevers, who has been on the look-out for the place for some years.

THE Conference at St. Petersburg, as we have before reported, decided against the use of explosive projectiles in small arms. But the Committee did not include the artillery. The same exception would hold good for hand grenades or rockets, which have been in use in all armies time out of mind, and for which no substitute has been found as yet. Both these were extensively employed in the late European war, and how little Prussia intends to abandon them may be inferred from the recent trials at the Spandau shooting grounds, where they formed the chief subject of experiment.

THE German journals announce that the French gun factories, even those of the State, having concluded the fabrication of the Chassepots, are working actively on the improved system of weapons adopted by Austria. Moreover, the *Gaulois* tells us that "the French government is commencing to fabricate in the government manufactories 600,000 rifles after an improved German system, and has engaged to deliver them to Austria before the end of April next." This looks as if the relations between Paris and Vienna were of the friendliest. Between Paris and Berlin, however, the relations do not seem quite so affectionate. Though there is less talk of war, yet no cordial understanding seems to have reached us yet.

THE organization of the South German armies on a similar footing to that of Prussia, is steadily progressing. In Bavaria, where the absence of a full complement of reserves has been the great difficulty, this is now removed, and next year thirty-two battalions, fully equipped, will be ready for effective service. The organization of the Baden force is, in every respect, including uniforms, arms and equipments, similar to that of Prussia; and Wurtemberg, while drilling and exercising the troops precisely as those in North Germany, has furnished them also with the breech-loader of Prussian manufacture. The slight difference yet existing, but which could easily be removed in case of need, is the divisions of regiments into battalions, there being in Wurtemberg three battalions to one regiment and only two in Prussia, though we see that the Hesse-Darmstadt division, already belonging to the North German army, has retained the system of three.

THE proposal of Dr. Newmayer to cross the Australian continent from east to west, will probably ultimately be accepted. There still remains more than half of Australia unexplored, and although it is possible that it is merely an arid desert, yet still it is likely that it will be found to have resources of great value. The cost of the proposed expedition would be £7,000 a year for three years, half of which would be subscribed by the home government and the remainder divided among the colonies. The expedition would be provided with ten camels, twenty-five horses, baggage wagons, camp equipage, field telegraph, boat, balloon and all kinds of scientific instruments. The progress of the party would, of course, be very slow, and they do not hope to accomplish the proposed journey in less than three years. It is intended, however, that the country on either side of the line of march, shall be thoroughly explored, and from time to time messengers will be dispatched to the coast with news and letters. The scientific results of an elaborate exploration, such as this, would no doubt be very valuable. The theory of an interior desert is now generally looked upon as unsound; it is known that natives range as far, at least, as the centre of the continent, and it is hoped that the unknown portion of Australia may prove as available for grazing purposes as that already occupied.

CONGRESS has adjourned for the holidays, and little has been done during the past week with reference to military matters beyond the mere introduction of bills to which we shall refer hereafter as they appear in the more advanced stages of legislation. The House of Representatives has adopted a resolution requesting the Secretary of the Interior to communicate any information in the possession of the department in reference to the hostile or peaceful character of the Indians recently killed or captured by United States troops, and whether they were at the time residing on the Government reservation. Also a resolution directing the Secretary of War to inform the House how many commissioned officers of the Army are detailed for duty in and about the city of New York; how employed, and whether the number of enlisted men and civilians so employed cannot be reduced.

U. S. ARMY AND NAVY JOURNAL.

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MR. ISHERWOOD AND HIS REPORT.

WE should have to use severer words than we should wish to print if we attempted to characterize Mr. ISHERWOOD's last report exactly as we think it deserves. Perhaps it is best to let this final manifesto—and the last literary monument, probably, of its prolific author's official career—go uncharacterized. It is creditable to the wisdom of the Secretary of the Navy that he refused to publish to the world that most remarkable portion of the document devoted to the condemnation of the American system of iron-clads. The sturdy monitors, after having carried us through the Rebellion, now rest their well-hammered sides at League Island. What they are, and what they are capable of doing, has been pretty thoroughly and satisfactorily demonstrated; they have won their victories against the public enemy and against their own detractors. It surely is beyond the power of Mr. ISHERWOOD to do them any harm whatever. We suppose, however, that he will hereafter give us the report in its entirety—some day, when outside the control of a Secretary he has leisure to do so. Let us await the day without disturbing our equanimity.

But just now let us consider—even at the risk of going over in part ground already familiar to the readers of the JOURNAL—some of the points in that portion of the report which the Secretary has suffered to go before the public.

To show Mr. ISHERWOOD's genius for the manipulation of figures (in which he contests the palm with that mathematical genius of the *World*, whom the papers talk so much about), we need only refer to his remarks on the trials of the "competitive" engines of the *Madawaska* and *Wampanoag*. These vessels, as Mr. ISHERWOOD admits, are of precisely the same dimensions and model; their boilers are also precisely alike, and their propellers are of the same diameter, viz., 19 ft. The only difference is in the engines themselves. The *Madawaska* has a pair of direct-acting engines, planned by an eminent civil engineer; the cylinders are 100 inches in diameter by 4 feet stroke of piston, and, as the propeller has a pitch of 30 feet, the vessel would, of course, advance that distance at each revolution of the engines, provided there is no "slip" to the propelling instrument. The *Wampanoag*, on the other hand, has a pair of "geared" engines, contrived by the Bureau; the cylinders are also 100 inches in diameter by 4 feet stroke of piston; but the engines are attached to the propeller by eighteen cog-wheels, so proportioned that, while the engines make one revolution, the propeller makes 2.04 revolutions; hence, as the mean pitch is 25 feet, for any revolution of the engines, the ship will advance (25x2.04) 51 feet, if there is no slip. As the engines of the *Madawaska*, under similar circumstances, make nearly double the number of revolutions that those of the *Wampanoag* do, they are of nearly double their capacity.

The Chief of the Bureau states that the object in constructing the above machinery was to have a "competitive" trial between the engines; in other words, a trial between a direct-acting engine, with an independent and adjustable "cut-off," and a cog-wheel engine, with no "cut-off" at all, except by "lap" on the valve. Let us see how this "competition" was conducted. The *Madawaska* was sent to sea in midwinter, where she remained for about six days. During this period, the weather was rough, and she encountered two as severe gales as are known on our boisterous coast; her sails were blown to ribbons; water entered the vessel in dangerous quantities; the staunch hull writhed. Such, in fact, was the severity of the storm that it was confidently expected she would founder.

Under these circumstances what was the sole reliance? The engines, and nothing but the engines and the skillful engineer who had charge of them. Had it been necessary to stop them to "cool the journals" and "readjust" them, as Mr. ISHERWOOD, the competitor and judge, sneeringly insinuates, no one would have been left to make a "re-

port." To these facts the captain of the ship testified in his report, and also paid a just tribute to the excellence and reliability of the engines which carried him safely through such a critical period. In moderate weather, this ship made a sufficient number of revolutions (according to Mr. ISHERWOOD's "calculation" concerning her duplicate) to propel her considerably above 17 knots per hour.

On the other hand, what are the facts in relation to the trial of the *Wampanoag*, the "competing" ship? Why, simply these: Mr. ISHERWOOD's Board got the machinery in the best possible order; waited behind Sandy Hook for fine weather; and then ran a race to Charleston bar with—as the report states—"a fresh breeze abaft the beam!" It is on the data collected from the logs of these trials—the one with every circumstance in favor of the engines, the other with every circumstance against them—that Mr. ISHERWOOD operates with his "figures," and reports to the Secretary that the *Wampanoag* gave an economical result—"over twice that given by the *Madawaska*!"

In directing the trial of the *Wampanoag*, adroit prudence was displayed. Her crank shaft is not only spread over 40 feet of the length of the vessel, but the engines are built without bed-plates, or anything to compensate the want; hence, if she had been caught in such a gale as that through which the direct-acting (bed-plate) engines of the *Madawaska* carried that vessel, the bending and twisting which occurs under such circumstances in all wooden vessels, no matter how strongly they may be built, would have caused such a heating in the main journals that the engines would have ceased to operate, and the *Wampanoag* would, in all probability, have gone to "Davy Jones."

Let us glance at some of Mr. ISHERWOOD's arithmetic. There is in the report a table ingeniously contrived to prove the "immense superiority" of the cog-wheel engines of the *Wampanoag*. The speed of this vessel is there set down at "16.758" knots per hour, which speed was achieved with the propeller making 63.77 revolutions per minute; in other words, the ship was going nearly one knot an hour faster than her propeller. The steam chief had previously said, in another report: "To say that in a vessel propelled by a screw alone, the vessel's speed could surpass that of the screw, would be to say that, in the case of a man wheeling a wheelbarrow, the speed of the wheelbarrow surpassed that of the man." On the other hand, in the "table" above referred to, the speed of the *Madawaska* (duplicate) is set down at "12.732" knots per hour, which speed was achieved with the propeller making 46.23 revolutions per minute; in other words, the propeller was going nearly one knot faster than the ship. "Transposing and reducing," it is seen that he made the rival ship go nearly one knot an hour slower than her screw, while the duplicate ship, with his own engines, goes nearly one knot faster than her propeller. This clever arithmetical feat, of course, makes a difference of about two knots an hour in favor of the vessel with his cog-wheel engines.

In order to show that perhaps the bureau has, in this case, carried its manipulation of figures a little beyond the line which defines the gullibility of Congressmen, it is only necessary to say that the speed is carried out to three places of decimals; in other words, in the endeavor to make an impression regarding extreme "accuracy," it is pretended that the speed was measured to within the one-thousandth part of a knot, i. e., that a knot (6,080 feet) was measured by a log line to the one-thousandth part!

On the whole, taking this demonstration in regard to the so-called "competitive" trials, and his celebrated tables, setting forth a list of worn-out tubs as the "principal screw steamers of the British navy" for purposes of comparison with a list of the bureau's new vessels, to show the "superiority" of the latter—taking both of these great feats together—and we cannot but acknowledge that Mr. B. F. ISHERWOOD is a remarkable arithmetician, whatever may be thought of him as the executive head of an important Government bureau.

It seems that the Senate Indian Committee, after a protracted session, has decided to report against the transfer of the Indian Bureau to the War Department; and in its stead has unani-

mously recommended the chairman to prepare a bill erecting that bureau into a separate department with the same functions as the other departments of the Government. The reasons assigned by the committee for adopting this course were the suggestions and recommendations contained in the report of the Indian Peace Commission, made last summer. This action of the committee, which was easily forecast, justified, it will be seen, the fight which was made in the Senate, upon the introduction of the bill, to get it referred to the Military rather than the Indian Committee. A strong effort is being made to influence public sentiment against the transfer of the Indian Bureau, by creating the impression that our Army officers are a set of reckless Indian haters, whose thirst for blood is the cause of our Indian troubles. The amiable Episcopal bishop of Minnesota and the venerable PETER COOPER have been enlisted in the movement, and a meeting was held in this city, at which a letter was read from one and an address made by the other. We fully appreciate the benevolent intentions of these gentlemen, and they can do much to create a healthy public sentiment in favor of an honest administration of our Indian affairs; but we would respectfully suggest that they will gain nothing by spreading such charges against our Army officers as were made by Colonel WYNKOOP, ex-Indian Agent, in his speech at the meeting we refer to. The testimony of such men as GRANT, SHERMAN, and SHERIDAN, which we have already published, is sufficient answer to his statements. Such charges as Bishop WHIPPLE indulges in cannot be made at random without subjecting their author to the unpleasant reputation of a slanderer.

THE Canadians urge that their claims for losses incurred during the Fenian raid of 1866 should be put upon the same footing with our *Alabama* claims, and referred to the same commissioners. It does not seem to occur to these gentlemen that the fact that the efforts of our Government were honestly exerted to stop this raid has any bearing upon the justice and legality of their claims. If the British government is prepared to show that they gave no encouragement to the Rebel authorities by their quasi-recognition of them, and that they used every effort to discourage and prevent the fitting out of privateers in England, the cases would be parallel, and both claims could properly be made the subject of arbitration. As it is, the Canadians do not assert that the Fenians were publicly encouraged by our Government in their attack on Canada; while we not only assert that the Rebels did receive such encouragement from the British government, but the fact has been substantially admitted by that government, and the question of referring the claims growing out of their action in the matter has been favorably considered.

Our Canadian cousins are very much mistaken if they suppose that we are so much delighted by this decision that we are willing to consider the subject of paying their losses by the Fenian raids. On the contrary, we have been, and are quite willing to let our *Alabama* claims go unsettled. If England can afford to acknowledge the principle upon which alone she can deny the justice of these claims, we are quite willing that she should deny it. We only press this matter that she may be forced to put that denial on the record. We shall have use for it ourselves one of these days as a precedent. We merely offer the British government and the British people an opportunity to repudiate that precedent. Some of the English statesmen are sensible enough to see that they will be glad to do it sooner or later. Is it not best to do it now, when we are prepared to admit their right to this repudiation, and wipe out our score against them?

THE "oldest inhabitant" is a personage for whom we have, in general, very little respect. He is a great authority on weather, generally predicting wrong. He is the man "within whose memory" no snow-storm has occurred so deep, no heat so hot, no cold so cold as the one under discussion—until the official tables prove that his memory is very bad. After this much of preface,

let us except the original (and therefore oldest) inhabitants of the Sandwich Islands from this imputation. Over a month ago, frequent shocks of earthquake were felt at Hilo, and the atmosphere was filled with smoke; whereupon "the natives predicted that a great tidal wave would deluge Honolulu by October 4th." But the prophecy failed. Late Honolulu advices informed us that "hundreds of the natives were ordered to the mountains for their safety, but the prediction failed of accomplishment." However, directly on the heels of this news, came later tidings, as follows: "On October 15th, a tidal wave fell on the island of Hawaii, destroying a number of houses, and causing much loss of property." Upon the whole, therefore, this may be put down among remarkable predictions. Eleven days' difference is very little in such matters, and the trustful natives who went to the mountains, were not such fools; after all. Whether any of our vessels in this "tidal wave" partook of the experience of Alaska and St. Thomas, we cannot yet say.

At the date of the report of the Secretary of the Navy, we had on duty with our various squadrons, 38 vessels, including storeships, mounting in all 347 guns. These vessels were distributed as follows: European Squadron, 4 vessels, 27 guns; Asiatic Squadron, 9 vessels, 82 guns; North Atlantic Squadron, 6 vessels, 52 guns; South Atlantic Squadron, 5 vessels, 49 guns; North Pacific Squadron, 8 vessels, 90 guns; South Pacific Squadron, 6 vessels, 47 guns. At the date of our latest report, December 5th, the English had, within the limits of these several stations, 116 vessels, mounting, in all, 1,146 guns. Besides their Channel fleet and other vessels at home, they had, in European waters, 16 vessels, mounting 257 guns. Three of these were iron-clads of 20, 24, and 30 guns, one an old 104-gun frigate, and two screw steamers, one of 31 guns and one of 21 guns; the rest were vessels of 2, 3, and 5 guns each. On the Asiatic Squadron they had one old 78, one iron-clad of 24 guns, one vessel of 21 guns, one of 15 guns, one of 12 guns, and 30 vessels mounting from 2 to 7 guns each; in all, 35 vessels and 243 guns. In North Atlantic waters, one vessel of 35 guns, one 29, one 24, one 18, one 17, one 16, one 11, one 10, and 16 smaller vessels; in all, 24 vessels and 216 guns. In the South Atlantic, one vessel of 35 guns and 8 small vessels, mounting, in all, 31 guns. In the North Pacific, one iron-clad of 21 guns, one vessel of 21 guns, four of 17 guns, and three small vessels of 2, 3, and 4 guns. In the South Pacific, one 72, one vessel of 31 guns, one 22, one 19, one 18, one 11 and 17 vessels mounting together 73 guns. From this it would appear that, besides their Channel fleet, the English have three cruising vessels in squadron service to our one.

THERE is a story told of a fat man who objected to fighting a duel with a shadowy antagonist, until his opponent, in the most liberal manner, offered to chalk a line, representing his own proportions, upon the person of the fat man, agreeing, at the same time, that anything which hit outside of that line was not to count. Of some such nature is the agreement recently entered into by the high contracting parties to the Anti-explosive Small-ball Convention, assembled at St. Petersburg. The purpose of the convention was an amiable one; but where is the power to enforce its provisions? Wars are usually the result of violating treaties, and in what respect does this one differ from the innumerable contracts between governments which have been made waste paper of as soon as interest opposed them?

Henceforth a soldier who is killed by an explosive projectile weighing less than 400 grammes (14 oz.), will have the satisfaction of knowing that the killing is illegal, and don't count. What more? If the European powers who sign this agreement keep it in case of war, they will do it, not because of the parchment they have put on file, but because the discussions of the convention have satisfied them that nothing is to be gained by the use of explosive bullets. It is fortunate that this conclusion has been arrived at, though we doubt whether a simple certification of this fact would not have answered every purpose of this parchment.

THE Third Army Corps Union has taken the initiative in the movement for organizing a society of the Army of the Potomac. The officers of this organization for the present year are: President, Major-General Daniel E. Sickles; Vice-President, Major-General William J. Sewell; Secretary, Major E. L. Welling; Treasurer, Major-General G. Mott; Directors, Major-General Robert McAllister, Colonel William R. Brewster, Major-General Gershom Mott, Captain J. Barclay Fassitt, General Edwin R. Biles, Major A. J. Clark and Captain Clayton McMichael. A special meeting of the Union was convened by the call of the President, at Delmonico's, in this city, on Wednesday evening last, at which thirty-one officers of the old Third Corps were present, General Sickles presiding. On motion of Colonel Clayton McMichael, the following resolutions were adopted:

Whereas, There is an earnest desire among the surviving member of the Army of the Potomac for the formation of a society and as general reunion of all who served in that organization;

Resolved, That it is recommended by the Third Army Corps Union, the oldest association of that Army, that measures be at once taken to secure the speedy accomplishment of the universally expressed wish,

Resolved, That to properly carry out this suggestion the chairman is hereby directed to appoint a committee, of which committee the President of this society shall constitute an additional member and chairman. The said committee to have authority to co-operate with any of their comrades and to take such other action as will in their judgment best promote the desired reunion.

The following committee were then appointed: General Hooker, General Heintzelman, General Mott, General Graham, General Mattocks, General Sewell, Colonel McMichael, Colonel Palford, and General Sickles, chairman.

Other business was transacted at this meeting, including the reading of the Secretary's report, from which it appears that since the last annual meeting a large number of new members had been admitted, and that for the past six months the affairs of the Union were in a very prosperous condition. The report stated that the funds of the Union were quite large, and that they were profitably invested in interest-paying government stocks. Generals Hooker, Heintzelman and Pleasanton were elected honorary members of the Union, which now numbers some 500 members, representing every State in the Union.

CAPTAIN L. M. HAMILTON.

WE have received an obituary of Captain L. M. Hamilton, of the Seventh U. S. Cavalry, which we are obliged to defer until another week. Accompanying this obituary we have received the following:

A meeting of the officers of the Seventh U. S. Cavalry was held in the camp of the regiment, on the north fork of Canadian River, Indian Territory, the 4th day of December, 1868, to take into consideration the untimely death of Captain Louis M. Hamilton, of the regiment, who was killed in the battle of the Washita, November 27, 1868, and to testify by resolution the respect and estimation in which the deceased was held by his comrades in arms. Brevet Major-General George A. Custer was chosen to preside over the meeting, and a committee was appointed to draft resolutions. The following was reported by the committee:

Resolved, That the death, in battle, of our late comrade, Captain Louis M. Hamilton, has bereft us of a dear and valued friend, who, while living, we cherished as a rare and gifted gentleman of unsullied honor and spotless fame; that we miss the genial face, the sparkling wit, the well-trieved, warm and trusty heart of him whose loss we mourn more deeply than words can tell.

Resolved, That by the death of the heroic Hamilton, the Army has lost one of its brightest ornaments; that he was a thorough, gallant soldier, with heart and hand in his work; whose highest aim was to be perfect, "without fear, and without reproach," in all things pertaining to his profession; that among the brilliant soldiers who were selected, after the closest scrutiny, from the armies of the East and of the West, for the new Army, which was organized at the close of the late war, our lamented Hamilton stood in the foremost ranks; that the genius of his mind, and the qualities of his heart, stamped him as one of the purest and brightest of his years and time; that his blameless life and glorious death entitle him to a place among the departed heroes of his race.

Resolved, That the patriotic ardor and devotion to country and duty, which rendered the grandiose Alexander Hamilton illustrious, were truthfully perpetuated in the grandson, the best efforts of whose life were directed toward the re-establishment of the Government, which his progenitor had aided to build; whose life's blood was shed in visiting just retribution upon those who had savagely outraged every principle of humanity, and who had persistently refused to recognize the authority of that government, which he had learned from infancy to venerate, and for the supremacy of which he had fought on many famous fields.

Resolved, That the officers and soldiers of the Seventh Cavalry do hereby express their heartfelt sympathy with all who mourn the loss of the deceased; especially do they tender the same to his relatives and family friends.

Resolved, That the secretary of the meeting be directed to transmit a copy of these proceedings to the relatives of the deceased; and that he also be directed to transmit a copy of the same for publication to the ARMY AND NAVY JOURNAL, and to the *Daily Eagle*, a paper published in Poughkeepsie, N. Y., where the deceased resided.

The report of the committee was approved, and the meeting adjourned sine die.

G. H. CUSTER,
Brevet Major-General U. S. A., President.
ROBERT M. WEST, Brevet Colonel U. S. A., Secretary.

ABSTRACT OF SPECIAL ORDERS

(Issued from the Adjutant-General's Office for the week ending December 21, 1868.)

Tuesday, December 15th.

By direction of the Secretary of War, the pay proper of Brevet Captain Henry Norton, first lieutenant Seventeenth U. S. Infantry, will be stopped until the necessary reports or abstracts due from him as acting assistant quartermaster, Dallas, Texas, are rendered, as required by General Orders No. 392, December 9, 1863, from this office.

By direction of the Secretary of War, Brevet Brigadier-General H. G. Thomas, captain Twentieth U. S. Infantry, will, when his services are no longer required by the Bureau of Refugees, Freedmen, and Abandoned Lands, report to the commanding general First Military District, for assignment to temporary duty.

By direction of the Secretary of War, so much of Special Orders No. 87, paragraph 3, March 21, 1862, from Headquarters Army of the Potomac, as discharged Chaplain Daniel W. Bristol, Twenty-sixth New York Volunteers, upon tender of resignation, is hereby revoked, he having rendered continuous service and been paid to January 3, 1863, when he was honorably discharged for the same cause by Special Orders No. 3, paragraph 6, January 3, 1863, from Headquarters Left Grand Division.

Private John B. Nisbet, Company K, Fifth U. S. Cavalry, is hereby detailed for duty as messenger at the Headquarters of the Army, to date December 9, 1868.

Private Horace Herrington, Company H, Thirty-sixth U. S. Infantry, having been appointed hospital steward U. S. Army, by the Secretary of War, will report by letter to the Medical Director Department of the Platte, for assignment to duty.

To complete his record on the rolls, First Lieutenant Edward V. Valentini, Eighth New York Volunteers, is, by direction of the Secretary of War, honorably discharged the military service of the United States, to date May 24, 1862, when he accepted the appointment as captain and additional aide-de-camp, in which latter grade he was subsequently dismissed the service to date September 5, 1863, by General Orders No. 181, paragraph 8, November 1, 1862, from this office. No payments will be made on this order, he having been already paid to the date of his discharge.

By direction of the President, Major-General O. O. Howard is hereby honorably mustered out of the service of the United States, as major general of Volunteers, to take effect January 1, 1869.

The permission to delay joining his regiment for thirty days, granted Captain J. P. Schindel, Sixth U. S. Infantry, in Special Orders No. 174, December 8, 1868, from headquarters general recruiting service, is hereby confirmed.

Second Lieutenant John B. Guthrie, Jr., Thirtieth U. S. Infantry, will, upon the expiration of the leave of absence granted him in Special Orders No. 61, March 12, 1868, from this office, report at the Headquarters Department of Dakota, for orders to join his regiment in Montana Territory.

Leave of absence for four months is hereby granted Brevet Colonel A. G. Brackett, lieutenant-colonel Second U. S. Cavalry.

By direction of the Secretary of War, Brevet Major-General J. B. McIntosh, lieutenant-colonel Forty-second U. S. Infantry (Veteran Reserve Corps), is hereby authorized to draw commutation of fuel and quarters in New York City, while on duty as a member of the Retiring Board, convened by Special Orders No. 258, October 28, 1868, from this office, provided he is not furnished in kind or commutation therefor elsewhere.

The permission to delay joining his regiment granted Second Lieutenant Oliver W. Longan, Seventh U. S. Cavalry, in Special Orders No. 280, November 23, 1868, from this office, is hereby extended until January 31, 1869.

Major John M. Goodhue, Twenty-third U. S. Infantry, will report in person without delay, to the commanding general Department of Columbia, for assignment to a post. He will proceed via the Isthmus of Panama.

Permission to delay joining his regiment for fifteen days is hereby granted Brevet Major John Leonard, first lieutenant Forty-third U. S. Infantry (Veteran Reserve Corps).

Permission to delay joining his regiment for thirty days upon being relieved from duty at Newport Barracks, Kentucky, is hereby granted Captain J. McIntosh, Twentieth U. S. Infantry.

Leave of absence for two months is hereby granted First Lieutenant R. W. Petrikin, Corps of Engineers.

Permission to delay joining his regiment for thirty days upon being relieved from duty at Newport Barracks, Kentucky, is hereby granted Brevet Major W. R. Lowe, captain Nineteenth U. S. Infantry.

The following-named officers are hereby authorized to draw commutation of fuel and quarters at St. Louis, Missouri, while on duty as members of the Retiring Board convened by Special Orders No. 262, November 2, 1868, from this office, provided they are not furnished in kind or commutation therefor elsewhere: Brevet Brigadier-General L. P. Graham, colonel Fourth U. S. Cavalry; Brevet Brigadier-General I. V. D. Reeve, colonel Thirtieth U. S. Infantry; Brevet Brigadier-General H. W. Wessells, lieutenant-colonel Eighteenth U. S. Infantry.

Wednesday, December 16th.

The services of Hospital Steward William H. Wiley, U. S. Army, being no longer required, he will be discharged the service of the United States upon the receipt of this order at the place where he may be serving.

Leave of absence for thirty days, to date from January 1, 1869, is hereby granted First Lieutenant J. E. Quentin, Forty-fifth U. S. Infantry (Veteran Reserve Corps), at the expiration of which he will join his regiment in the Department of the Cumberland.

The leave of absence granted Captain A. A. Harbach, Twentieth U. S. Infantry, in Special Orders No. 75, November 13, 1868, from headquarters, Department of Louisiana, is hereby extended forty days.

Brevet Captain E. R. P. Shurly, first lieutenant U. S. Army, retired, is hereby authorized to draw commutation of fuel and quarters from the date he appeared before the Retiring Board, convened in New York City by Special Orders No. 258, October 28, 1868, from this office, until he received notification of the decision of the board in his case, provided he was not furnished in kind or commutation therefor elsewhere.

The leave of absence for four months granted First Lieutenant John Cooley, Twenty-second U. S. Infantry, by paragraph 10, Special Orders No. 226, September 21, 1868, from this office, is hereby revoked, and he will report in person at once to Brevet Major-General Butterfield, New York City, for assignment to duty on recruiting service.

Hospital Steward Louis Planitz, U. S. Army, late on duty with the Medical Examining Board, U. S. Army, New York City, will report for duty, without delay, to the commanding officer, Fort Niagara, New York. The Quartermaster's Department will furnish the necessary transportation.

Sergeant Emerson I. Dodge, Battery G, and Private Melvain St. Clair, Company K, Fourth U. S. Artillery, supposed to be serving with their commands, will be sent without delay to the commanding officer, Fort Monroe, Virginia, for instruction at the Artillery School, U. S. Army. They will be reported on the records of their companies as on detached service at the Artillery School, U. S. Army, Fort Monroe, Va. The Quartermaster's Department will furnish the necessary transportation.

Permission to await at Baltimore, Maryland, the result of the tender of his resignation, is hereby granted Post Chaplain Charles Cole.

Permission to delay reporting to his regiment for sixty days after being relieved from duty in the Bureau of Refugees, Freedmen, and Abandoned Lands, is hereby granted First Lieutenant Robert G. Heiner, Twentieth U. S. Infantry.

Private William Boswell, Company B, Twelfth U. S. Infantry, having been appointed hospital steward U. S. Army, by the Secretary of War, will report by letter to the Medical Director, Department of the South, for assignment to duty.

Thursday, December 17th.

The extension of leave of absence granted First Lieutenant William J. Driggs, Twentieth U. S. Infantry, in Special Orders No. 288, December 3, 1868, from this office, is hereby further extended until February 1, 1869.

Upon his own application, Second Lieutenant S. R. Crumbaugh, Second U. S. Infantry, is hereby transferred from Company G to Company C. He will report without delay, to his proper station.

Upon his own application, Second Lieutenant John McClellan, Fifth U. S. Artillery, is hereby transferred from Company K, to Company I. He will report, without delay, to the commanding officer of his proper company.

As it appears that he was illegally drafted, the charge of desertion against Perry McPherson, late private Company E, Twenty-eighth U. S. Colored Troops, is hereby removed, and the sum of thirty dollars (deducted from his pay to reimburse the United States for expenses attending his apprehension) will be refunded. He is regarded as having enlisted September 22, 1864, and is hereby mustered for the pay and allowances of a private soldier (less amounts heretofore received) from that date to November 8, 1865, when discharged by muster-out.

By direction of the Secretary of War, to complete his record upon the rolls, Captain W. D. McLelland, First Tennessee Cavalry, is, upon the report of the commanding officer of his regiment, hereby honorably discharged from the service of the United States, to date August 28, 1863, the date he ceased duty with his regiment. He will receive no final payments until he shall have satisfied the pay department that he is not indebted to the Government. No travelling allowances will be paid under this order.

By direction of the President the extension of leave of absence granted Brevet Major T. J. Gregg, first lieutenant Second U. S. Cavalry, in Special Orders No. 273, November 14, 1868, from this office, is hereby further extended until April 1, 1869.

Leave of absence for fifteen days, to date from January 1, 1869, is hereby granted First Lieutenant Andrew Mahony, Forty-fifth U. S. Infantry (Veteran Reserve Corps), at the expiration of which he will join his regiment in the Department of the Cumberland.

Paragraph 1, General Orders No. 92, November 15, 1868, from Headquarters Twenty-seventh U. S. Infantry, assigning Second Lieutenant Richard Summers, of that regiment, to Company C, is hereby confirmed.

Paragraph 2, General Orders No. 92, November 15, 1868, from Headquarters Twenty-seventh U. S. Infantry, transferring Second Lieutenant Richard Summers, of that regiment, from Company C to Company G, is hereby confirmed.

Friday, December 18th.

Musician Pamenondas G. Amick, Company B, music boys general service U. S. Army, now supposed to be serving at Newport Barracks, Kentucky, will be discharged the service of the United States, upon the receipt of this order at the place where he may be serving.

Private Timothy Mahoney, Battery K, First U. S. Artillery, now supposed to be serving with his command, will be discharged the service of the United States upon the receipt of this order at the place where he may be serving. This soldier is entitled to pay, etc., only under Paragraph 1,371, Revised U. S. Army Regulations of 1863.

The unexecuted portion of the sentence of a General Court-martial, promulgated in General Orders No. 68, of November 14, 1867, from Headquarters Department of the East, directing Private David Lusee, Company L, First U. S. Artillery, to be dishonorably discharged the service of the United States, with forfeiture of all pay and allowances, and to be confined at hard labor at Fort Schuyler, New York Harbor, for the period of two years, the first year of such confinement with a twenty-four

pound ball attached to his left leg by a chain three and one-half feet long, is hereby remitted.

By direction of the Secretary of War, so much of Special Orders No. 9, Paragraph 1, January 9, 1863, from Headquarters Army of the Potomac, as discharged Second Lieutenant Peter Fields, Thirtieth New York Volunteers, is hereby amended to read: Thirtieth New Jersey Volunteers.

Permission to delay joining his regiment for fifteen days, upon being relieved from duty in the Bureau of Refugees, Freedmen and Abandoned Lands, is hereby granted Second Lieutenant Harry L. Haskell, Twelfth U. S. Infantry.

Permission to delay joining his regiment for fifteen days upon being relieved from duty in the Bureau of Refugees, Freedmen and Abandoned Lands, is hereby granted Second Lieutenant F. W. Liedtke, Forty-third U. S. Infantry, (Veteran Reserve Corps.)

The leave of absence granted Brevet Captain S. E. Clark, second lieutenant Sixteenth U. S. Infantry, in Special Orders No. 89, November 17, 1868, from Headquarters Department of the South, is hereby extended forty days.

Permission to delay joining his regiment for fifteen days upon being relieved from duty in the Bureau of Refugees, Freedmen and Abandoned Lands, is hereby granted First Lieutenant F. D. Garretty, Forty-third U. S. Infantry (Veteran Reserve Corps.)

By direction of the President, Quartermaster-Sergeant William H. Beaumont, Company A, Twelfth U. S. Infantry, now supposed to be serving with his command, will be discharged the service of the United States upon the receipt of this order at the place where he may be serving.

Private Louis Thiergartner, Company E, Fifth U. S. Artillery, now supposed to be serving with his command, will be sent, without delay, to the commanding officer Fort Monroe, Virginia, for instruction at the Artillery School, U. S. Army. He will be reported on the records of his company as on detached service at the Artillery School, U. S. Army, Fort Monroe, Virginia. The Quartermaster's Department will furnish the necessary transportation.

Saturday, December 19th.

Permission to delay fifteen days en route to his regiment upon being relieved from duty in the Bureau of Refugees, Freedmen and Abandoned Lands, is hereby granted Brevet Major H. F. Brownson, captain Forty-third U. S. Infantry, (Veteran Reserve Corps.)

Colonel M. B. Walker, U. S. Army retired, is hereby authorized to draw commutation of fuel and quarters while on duty at Austin, Texas, as a member of a General Court-martial convened by Special Orders No. 79, November 10, 1868, from Headquarters Fifth Military District, provided he is not furnished in kind or commutation therefor elsewhere.

The leave of absence granted Brevet First Lieutenant R. C. Breyfogle, second lieutenant Twelfth U. S. Infantry, in Special Orders No. 221, November 24, 1868, from Headquarters First Military District, is hereby extended ten days.

Leave of absence for ten days, to date from the 23d instant, is hereby granted Second Lieutenant T. T. Thornburgh, Second U. S. Artillery.

Special Orders No. 178, November 16, 1868, from Headquarters Military Division of the Pacific, confirming the transfer of Second Lieutenant James Bassel, Second U. S. Artillery, from Company L to Battery M, are hereby confirmed.

Ordnance Sergeant William Farrell, U. S. Army, now on duty at Fort McIntosh, Texas, will report for duty without delay, to the commanding officer Fort Jefferson, Florida. Commutation of subsistence at the usual rates will be furnished while en route, if it is impracticable to provide subsistence in kind. The Quartermaster's Department will furnish the necessary transportation.

Ordnance Sergeant William Slade, U. S. Army, will be relieved from duty at Fort Jefferson, Florida, upon the arrival at that post of Ordnance Sergeant William Farrell, U. S. Army, from Fort McIntosh, Texas, and will report for duty to the commanding officer Fort Foote, Maryland. Commutation of subsistence at the usual rates will be furnished while en route if it is impracticable to provide subsistence in kind. The Quartermaster's Department will furnish the necessary transportation.

Quartermaster-Sergeant Harry B. Ryan, Company I, Sixteenth U. S. Infantry, now supposed to be serving with his command, will be discharged the service of the United States upon the receipt of this order at the place where he may be serving.

Permission to delay compliance with so much of Special Orders No. 285, November 30, 1868, from this office, as directed him to join his company, without delay, in the Department of Washington, is hereby granted Second Lieutenant E. H. Weirman, Fourth U. S. Artillery, for fifteen days.

The leave of absence granted Brevet Major George L. Choisy, captain Fortieth U. S. Infantry, in Special Orders No. 89, November 17, 1868, from Headquarters Department of the South, is hereby extended twenty days.

Monday, December 21st.

The leave of absence on surgeon's certificate of disability granted Brevet Major Harry C. Egbert, captain Twelfth U. S. Infantry, in Special Orders No. 239, October 6, 1868, from this office, is hereby extended thirty days on surgeon's certificate of disability.

Private John A. Lavender, general service U. S. Army, having been appointed hospital steward, U. S. Army, by the Secretary of War, will report to the Surgeon General for duty.

Private George Penland, Company B, Sixth U. S. Infantry, now supposed to be serving with his command, will be discharged the service of the United States upon the receipt of this order at the place where he may be serving. This soldier is entitled to pay, etc., only under paragraph 1,371, Revised U. S. Army Regulations of 1863.

Private Andrew Wissmann, Company K, Fifth U. S. Cavalry, now supposed to be serving with his command,

will be discharged the service of the United States upon the receipt of this order at the place where he may be serving.

Private William A. Preston, Company F, Fifth U. S. Infantry, now supposed to be serving with his command, will be discharged the service of the United States upon the receipt of this order at the place where he may be serving, on account of worthlessness.

Leave of absence for ten days is hereby granted Brevet Major G. B. Rodney, first lieutenant Fourth U. S. Artillery. This leave not to extend beyond the 2d proximo.

Leave of absence is hereby granted the following-named officers: Brevet Major B. F. Rittenhouse, first lieutenant Fifth U. S. Artillery, for nine days, to take effect on the 24th instant; Brevet Major Charles P. Eakin, first lieutenant First U. S. Artillery, for ten days, to take effect on the 23d instant; Second Lieutenant H. M. Jones, Fourth U. S. Artillery, for ten days, to take effect on the 23d instant; Second Lieutenant R. D. Potts, Third U. S. Artillery, for nine days, to take effect on the 24th instant; Second Lieutenant A. D. Schenck, Second U. S. Artillery, for ten days, to take effect on the 23d instant.

By direction of the Secretary of War, Corporal George Lowell, Company I, Twenty-sixth U. S. Infantry, who deserted at Tyler, Texas, June 10, 1867, enlisted in the general service, U. S. Army, December 7, 1867, under the name of William E. Allen, deserted from Fort Columbus, New York Harbor, May 27, 1868, and surrendered himself at that depot December 11, 1868, will be dishonorably discharged the service of the United States upon refunding the amount of expenses incurred by his enlistments, transportation to his regiment, and his desertions, to the Superintendent General Recruiting Service U. S. Army, who will ascertain the amount incurred and inform Mr. Thomas J. Maguire, of No. 71 Water street, New York City, thereof.

Private Henry Ives, Company I, Forty-fourth U. S. Infantry (Veteran Reserve Corps), on duty as watchman in the War Department, is hereby transferred to Company E, Forty-fourth U. S. Infantry, (Veteran Reserve Corps), and will be sent to that company for duty.

By direction of the Secretary of War, so much of Special Orders No. 273, Paragraph 4, October 6, 1862, from Headquarters Army of the Potomac, as honorably discharged Captain E. Olcott, Twenty-fifth New York Volunteers, upon tender of resignation, to enable him to accept the appointment of major One Hundred Twenty-first New York Volunteers, is hereby amended to date August 23, 1862, when he was mustered into service, and from which date he was first paid as of the last mentioned grade and regiment.

By direction of the Secretary of War, so much of Special Orders No. 117, Paragraph 3, March 12, 1863, from this office, as relates to Captain Uriah Gullman, Twenty-ninth New York Volunteers, is hereby amended to read Major Ulrich Gullmann.

By direction of the Secretary of War, so much of Special Orders No. 318, Paragraph 6, October 29, 1862, from this office, as relates to Major John Van Nostitz, Twenty-ninth New York Volunteers, is hereby amended to read, Captain John Von Nostitz, in which grade he received final payment.

By direction of the Secretary of War, so much of Special Orders No. 19, Paragraph 5, January 13, 1863, from this office, as discharged Second Lieutenant George H. Overocker, Thirtieth New York Volunteers, upon tender of resignation, is hereby revoked, he having been previously honorably discharged for the same cause by Special Orders No. 33, Paragraph 5, December 30, 1862, from Headquarters Left Grand Division, and finally paid to the date of that order.

CARRIER PIGEONS.

THE subject of the use of carrier pigeons, for the purpose of conveying intelligence from vessels in case of disaster, and in other events incident to nautical life, has been fully discussed at the Havre Marine Exhibition. The Boston *Commercial Bulletin* publishes the following letter on this subject from its Havre correspondent:

I trust you will not deem me *flighty* if I take up the subject of carrier pigeons; but as this fancy is now attracting some attention in Europe I have thought it would be interesting to say a few words on this matter, which was brought to my special attention by the sending of nearly a thousand of these birds from here last Sunday. The pigeons were sent by rail from Brussels, stored away in square baskets, containing each about thirty birds. All arrived in safety but in somewhat dirty condition. For three days they were kept on view at the Marine Exhibition, and at 9 o'clock on Sunday morning, with one grand flutter, they sailed off for their destination. The start had but a momentary interest, for sweeping wildly up into the strong currents of a southerly and autumnal gale they were soon lost to sight. Scarce three minutes elapsed after opening the cage before not a pigeon was seen. Subsequently I learned that about fifty, that were overpowered by the gale, or who did not know their way, lit on the house of our consul here, and at Rouelle a lot also alighted. As it was, the leaders of the racers did not arrive at Brussels until after three o'clock in the afternoon, whereas if they had made their usual time should have been in at five minutes past one o'clock. These carriers belong to Belgian societies, who make a specialty of carrier training, more for pastime than profit.

Carriers can and do often attain a space of 120 miles per hour, and when well trained never fail to make a straight course, unless driven off by a hawk, when they are oftentimes so confused as to lose their way, and it may be days before they can find it. Sir John Ross, the Arctic explorer, dispatched a pair of young pigeons on the 6th or 7th of October, 1850, from Assistance Bay, a little to the west of Wellington Sound, and on the 18th of October a pigeon made its appearance at the dovecot in Ayrshire, in Scotland, from whence Sir John had taken them. The distance between the two places is about two thou-

sand miles. The dovecot was under repair at this time, and the pigeons belonging to it had been removed, but the servants of the house were struck with the appearance of the stranger. After a short stay it went to the pigeon-house of a neighboring proprietor, where it was caught and sent back to the lady who originally owned it. She at once recognized it as one of those which she had given to Sir John Ross; but to put the matter to a test, it was carried to the pigeon-house, when out of the many niches it directly went to the one in which it had been hatched.

I am well acquainted with a gentleman, a resident of Connecticut, who years ago was noted for the fine brood of carriers he kept. A negro servant in his employ sold one of the best of his flock to a gentleman who resided in Canada. This transaction was unknown to the proprietor. One day he noticed his pet bird resting upon the gable of the barn, and felt assured he had performed more than an ordinary journey, but none of the servants could explain to him any thing satisfactory. A few days afterward he received a letter from the Canada gentleman, which stated that he had paid \$15 to the other gentleman's servant for the carrier pigeon which had flown; and supposing he would return home, he wrote, asking him to forward the bird by the first opportunity. A few months afterward another of the flock was disposed of in a like manner, and the bird carried in safety to Albany, where when thought to be sufficiently weaned and domesticated it was let out into one of the rooms of the Stanwix Hall. Finding an open window, the bird took advantage and started for its old home in Connecticut, where it arrived in a few hours. The purchaser, having become very much attached to the bird, wrote for it, and in this manner the facts were ascertained as I have related them.

During Webster's time, and on the occasion of one of his great speeches in Boston, some of the New York papers sent carrier pigeons to your city to bring home the speech. As soon as delivered and prepared, it was attached to the bird and he was started. Unfortunately, he encountered a hawk and after a good deal of manœuvring, he succeeded in eluding his pursuer, and tired, exhausted, and having lost his way, he settled in the barn yard of Judge —, who attracted by the parcel he had on his legs, caught him, and after reading the speech, scarce delivered two hours, he took the bird to Bridgeport, and sent the speech forward to its destination.

Before the day of telegraphs, the carrier pigeon was somewhat extensively used by the enterprising newspapers. It is not mistaken, the New York *Journal of Commerce*, *Courier and Enquirer*, and the *Herald* relied upon them for the transmission of certain kinds of news. Excepting by the meeting of hawks, they seldom, if ever, fail to go straight to their destination.

Naturalists have always been puzzled to account for the peculiar powers which enable this bird to find its way home from immense distances. The majority seem to agree that it is enabled to do this mainly by its strength of vision. The generally accepted theory is that at home the pigeons are accustomed to mount to a great height, and to perform at a lofty elevation circles constantly increasing in diameter; that when let loose at a moderate distance, say a hundred miles from home, they mount up as usual, and with far-reaching glance recognize some object which they had been accustomed to see in their home journeys; this object is a sufficient guide, and the birds instantly shape their course for it. The attachment of the carrier-pigeon to its birthplace is well understood, and to this, in conjunction with its wonderful strength of vision, must be attributed the certainty of its flight homeward. When desired to perform longer journeys, so long that a glimpse of familiar landmarks is out of the question, they must be carefully trained and made acquainted with at least a part of the route which they have to pass over.

The carrier pigeon is known by a large wart-like excrescence under each eye, which increases in size as it grows older. At a certain age these must be pared down or the bird cannot see directly ahead. In color they are blue. A true blooded carrier pigeon should not have a single white feather about him. I have heard some talk of training pigeons for the transmission of naval messages, so that in the event of a war, ships off the coast would have ready and almost sure communication with the shore. Hence, for example, a cruiser on our coast could have pigeons trained for Washington, for the Navy Department dispatches, others for Boston, New York, Philadelphia and Hampton Roads, and by this means the off-shore squadron or cruiser could give timely notice of the approach of an enemy, or send for reinforcements or aid, in one-hundredth of the time it would take if the vessel herself was obliged to go in. They might be a great auxiliary on our passenger steamers, and in event of an accident how readily the news might be sent and location pointed out, so that succor could be sent quickly and to the exact spot. It is certainly practicable and by no means costly. Suppose the *China* was disabled in latitude 44 20, longitude 37 20 West. A carrier pigeon could be sent, one to New York and one to Liverpool. Of course the papers would be apprised of the fact, and all the outgoing steamers from both sides the Atlantic would be steered as near this spot as possible, and thus probably a valuable cargo of life and property would be rescued inside of four days. Whereas, under the present system, we should wait for days, or even weeks, in great anxiety to hear from the vessel.

In other cases it might be so that the vessel could only survive her injuries for a limited period, a time too short to admit of relief by the ordinary course of things. The carrier would here be worth his weight in diamonds. I throw out this suggestion not as a greenhorn in nautical things, but as one who firmly believes that the carrier pigeon would be of great practical value, and especially to avert many of the horrors which so often thrill the hearts of the people on both sides of the Atlantic.

Hundreds of vessels are now afloat, on whose deck-house may be seen the little houses of pet dogs, pet monkeys, parrots, and even pigeons. I have seen whale-

men tame "boobies" and sea gulls. There are a dozen tame gulls in the exhibition here. If there is room for this kind of pets, then there is for pet carrier pigeons. Who will take the first step? He who will, will do his fellow-beings and humanity a great benefit, and might be the humble instrument of saving thousands of lives upon the ocean.

Now, then, a fact or two. First—We give an instance where a pigeon has flown 2,000 miles. That's two-thirds of the way from New York to Liverpool; say at the rate of 60 miles per hour, which the carrier would fly, it would take only 33 hours to deliver a message from that point, that is, to send it to New York, and as Liverpool is only 1,000 distant, it would take only 16½ hours to deliver the message in that port. Second—As hawks are rarely, if ever, seen at sea, it is not at all likely the carrier would be interfered with. Third—The cost of them, and the care and feeding, is but a mere trifle. They would increase on shipboard, and would pay for themselves a million times over.

PARAGRAPHS.

AN Army officer, filling a high rank in the Engineer Corps of the United States, has written a private letter in regard to our Alaska purchase, a portion of which has found its way into print. In it he ventures to wonder "what Seward bought Russian America for." We might answer, for seven millions two hundred thousand dollars, but we remember that the Congressional committee of investigation have not yet settled what became of the odd two hundred thousand. This eminent engineer officer is himself evidently an optimist of the Seward school, for he goes on to say "the coast survey is a good institution and has done good service to the science of geography, and it is possible that it may have been in the scheme of Providence to give it a perpetual lease of life. This is one good thing. There is another. The timber on the globe is not exhausted. I certainly saw enough timber last August just sailing along among the islands to build all the railroads and telegraph lines now on the globe, and half a dozen lines of each clear around it besides. What there may be in the interior I do not know. He describes the scenery as very grand and wild, too much so, he thinks, to be enjoyed." You go hundreds of miles through inland passages not wider in many places than the Hudson River, with great mountains rising right up out of the water and lifting their heads into the regions of perpetual snow, where no white man has ever been, and where no sensible man will ever go. The whole coast is fringed with a network of such waters enclosing archipelago after archipelago of islands from one mile to fifty miles long. I do not know nor did anybody aboard our ships know whether we got a sight of the mainland or not during the entire voyage."

THE Paris correspondent of the London *Army and Navy Gazette* tells us that Marshal Niel, who still remains in office, is a most practical man. It was not long ago that, with a single stroke of his pen, he deprived all the cavalry regiments of their bands, and now more prosaic reforms are spoken of. If the French horse have now to march without music, it looks as if the French foot will soon have to march without that poetical addition to a regiment—the vivandière. The list of heroines associated with the French Army in this character is a long one, and to weed them entirely out of the Army would be a most unpopular act. M. Bescherelle, in his military sketches, gives us this portrait: "The vivandière is a distinct type, and has her own immortal page in the history of our wars. She has accompanied our armies in all their battle-fields, from Jemappes to the Pyramids, from the icy barriers of the Spugen to the laughing plains of Italy and Spain, from Madrid to Moscow. Turn about the vivandière is surgeon, sister of charity, soldier, but always a woman, a mother, and the companion of a soldier. She has slept on the marble flags of the palace of the Moors at Seville, and on the flowery banks of the Guadiana; she has heard the gondolier sing on the banks of the Tagus and the Arno, and she has crossed the frozen Beresina. The vivandière at the head of our victorious armies, has entered Rome, Naples, Berlin, Warsaw, Vienna, and Moscow." After this brilliant sketch it is hard to think that for a matter of economy the vivandière of to-day is destined to perish.

THE London *Morning Herald* pays the following tribute to Lieutenant-General Sherman, in the course of an article on General Grant, as President elect: "It is believed that Lieutenant-General Sherman will be installed in the post of Commander-in-chief, (General,) and no appointment is more probable, for Grant's admiration of his fellow soldier is almost without bounds. Sherman has never received his deserts from the American people. All the honors were showered upon Grant; and Sherman, who had done scarcely less than Grant, and as some believe very much more, was sent out to fight savages on the Plains. Pursues were made up for Grant, and houses and library presented to him, but Sherman got his pay and nothing more. His retiring disposition deepened the neglect with which he has been treated. Grant will, unquestionably, seek to place him in a post of honor as soon as the 4th of March arrives. There is no single man on whose advice he will be disposed to place so much reliance, and even the most astute of politicians will find it a work of difficulty to make catspaws of these two straight-forward soldiers."

THE Savannah *News* of the 16th instant, has a long communication from General Jubal A. Early, dated Drummondville, Canada, December 10th, in which the General exposes what he characterizes as the folly and impossibility of the story that General Jackson "once recommended a night attack to be made by assailants stripped naked and armed with bowie knives." The folly and indecency of such a suggestion, he declares, preclude the possibility that it could have been made by Stonewall Jackson. But besides this, the time was in December, when the assailants would have been frozen to death, and at that time few or no bowie knives were to be had. We judge, from this, that General Early would have opposed this scheme chiefly through fear of

an arrest of those participating in it, for "indecent exposure," or else he shares the sentiment of the young woman who was restrained from suicide by her objection to being found drowned in anything but her best clothes.

The British Government has recently won in the United States Supreme Court, a suit against the Sharp's Rifle Company of Hartford, which has been in the courts for twelve years. In 1856, they made a contract for arms for the Crimean campaign with the Sharp's Company, and to secure the fulfillment of this contract, took a mortgage of certain lands near the Sharp's factory. The Government claims a non-fulfillment of the contract, and asked for a foreclosure of the mortgage. The whole amount in controversy is about \$100,000. A colonel of the British Army has been kept on full pay, \$10,000 a year in gold, in New York all the time, to manage the case, ostensibly, but all he has had to do has been to pay the counsel of the crown their fifty dollars per diem in gold, when engaged on the case, and to sign his name occasionally, while he has boarded at the first class hotels. The lawyers, naturally enough, regret the "death of the old goose."

A CORRESPONDENT of the *New York Times* tells the following story, apropos of the lieutenant-general's somewhat *neglige* style of dress: One day an intimate friend in the Army of the Tennessee, asked him why he dressed so? "I'll tell you," said the general. "When I was a second lieutenant, I was ordered one day to Washington City, and went in all the glory of a brand-new uniform. I was standing in front of the hotel sunning myself, and quietly smoking a cigar, when I became aware that I had attracted the attention of a number of small boys, who gathered around in such numbers, and with such admiring countenances upturned to mine, that I could not but notice them. As I did so, one of the boldest of them spoke up in a loud voice and asked, 'Mister, where is your engine goin' to squirt?' General Sherman has never been guilty of a completely new uniform since; he buys his uniforms in detachments, and wears them out in instalments.

Mr. John Bright in the course of a speech at a banquet recently given in London to the American Minister, made the following allusion to the Alabama difficulty: I have often said that though we had a legal right to recognize the belligerent rights of the South, we had no moral right to do so at the precise time, or in the precise manner in which it was done. I have always said, and I maintain that it was done at a time when and in a manner which caused injury and unnecessary offence to the Government and people of the United States. If that had never been done there would have been no corsairs, because no Englishman would have ventured to appear on the ocean as a mere sailor, or a fighting man on board a ship-of-war, if he knew that ship of war was not a legal ship of war. Therefore, if that recognition had not taken place there would have been no corsairs, and the extreme difficulties which we met would have been avoided."

A KANSAS City dispatch says: An Army guide, just in from the Plains, reports that the Kansas volunteers joined General Sherman on the 19th inst. on his march to Fort Cobb. The general intended to eat his Christmas dinner at Camp Supply, where Major Inman is ordered with a large train of supplies. It is reported that the Indians have driven off all the stock belonging to General Penrose's command. Many of his men were badly frozen.

CHANGES IN THE NATIONAL GUARD.

GENERAL HEADQUARTERS S. N. Y.,
ADJUTANT-GENERAL'S OFFICE, ALBANY, DEC. 22, 1868.
The following named officers have been commissioned by the Commander-in-Chief in the National Guard, S. N. Y., during the week ending December 19th:

TENTH REGIMENT INFANTRY.

William A. Lindsey, captain, with rank December 7th, vice Daniel G. Curtiss, resigned.
Michael Schiedler, captain, with rank December 3d, vice Samuel E. Jones, removed from district.
David W. Young, first lieutenant, with rank December 7th, vice Thomas V. Wolcott, resigned.
William H. Jennings, first lieutenant, with rank December 3d, vice Michael Schiedler, promoted.

ONE HUNDRED AND SIXTH REGIMENT INFANTRY.

George N. Clute, captain, with rank October 3d, vice J. E. Erwin, removed from district.

FIRST REGIMENT CAVALRY.

Gottlieb Kunz, captain, with rank October 20th, original vacancy.
Michael Isenmann, first lieutenant, with rank October 20th, original vacancy.
Joseph Felsch, second lieutenant, with rank October 20th, original vacancy.
Edward Haenser, second lieutenant, with rank October 20th, original vacancy.
Christian Machemester, second lieutenant, with rank October 20th, vice Gottlieb Kunz, promoted captain Company D.

RESIGNATIONS.

The following resignations have been accepted:

FIFTH REGIMENT INFANTRY.

Second Lieutenant John M. Galtelman, December 19th.

SEVENTH REGIMENT INFANTRY.

Second Lieutenant John W. Bense, December 19th.

NINTH REGIMENT INFANTRY.

First Lieutenant Alexander McCook, December 19th.

Second Lieutenant George W. J. Coles, December 19th.

TWELFTH REGIMENT INFANTRY.

First Lieutenant George S. Barger, December 19th.

NINETEENTH REGIMENT INFANTRY.

Second Lieutenant James C. Christ, December 15th.

FIFTY-FIFTH REGIMENT INFANTRY.

Colonel Eugene Lo Gal, December 19th.

NINETY-SIXTH REGIMENT INFANTRY.

Captain Francis Kohlberger, December 15th.

Governor Fenton gave a brilliant farewell reception at the Executive Mansion in Albany on the evening of December 23d. Besides the leading citizens of the capital, a large number of distinguished guests were present from other parts of the State.

THE NATIONAL GUARD.

REPORT OF ADJUTANT GENERAL MARVIN.—The annual report, for 1867, of Adjutant-General Elden E. Marvin has just been published in three handsome volumes, after having been transmitted to the Legislature on the 31st of January last. Owing to this delay it makes its appearance almost simultaneously with the retirement of General Marvin from the position he has held with so much honor to himself and so much advantage to the Militia of this State. "An efficient military organization," says the general, in the introduction to his report, "is a necessary part of every government; first to protect the body politic from external hostility and aggression; and secondly to ensure domestic tranquility and enforcement of the law." In this remark, General Marvin strikes the keynote of his own administration; and this report, as well as that administration, bears testimony to the general's estimate of the importance of an efficient volunteer military organization for this country. In his report he passes rapidly in review the various foreign military systems, as well as our own system, and, after considering the relations of the Militia to the general Government, proceeds to consider its relation to the State, of which it is the peculiar offspring. He argues very truly that, while authority over the Militia, when not in general service rests entirely with the States, it is impliedly incumbent upon them to provide for its organization, under such general regulations, established by Congress, as will insure uniformity and harmony. The relations of the National Guard to the citizen; the subject of military education in schools, of discipline, of breech-loading guns, and other matters germane to its subject are also considered in this report, which ought to receive careful consideration from every well-instructed officer of the National Guard. To the report proper of the adjutant-general have been appended the following series of documents and subordinate reports: Reports of National Guard regiments in the late war; register of the military force of the State of New York; recapitulation of the military force of the State; abstract of muster and inspection rolls for the year 1867 by regiments; recapitulation of same by brigades; recapitulation of same by divisions; table of military districts of the State; brevet commissions issued to members of the National Guard; list of officers of the National Guard retired from service; general orders and circulars of the department for 1867.

General Marvin will carry with him in his retirement the cordial good wishes of all who have had intercourse with him during his connection with the Governor's staff. He will not be forgotten, for he has left his record behind him, in the influence he has exerted in securing a more efficient organization of the National Guard.

SEVENTY-FIRST REGIMENT.—It will be recollected that a detachment of this regiment escorted Mr. Hoffman, then Mayor of New York, last spring, to New Haven, on the occasion of the inaugural ceremonies of Governor English, of Connecticut, and took a very active part on that occasion. The ceremonies of the inaugural were so impressive, that Mr. Hoffman stated that he should like to see the same programme carried out in this State. It then being fully understood that Mr. Hoffman would be nominated for Governor, Lieutenant-Colonel Rockefeller, then in command, offered the services of the regiment as an escort, should he be so fortunate to be elected. Thus the matter rested until after the recent election, when the offer was again renewed and accepted. The officers and members of the regiment immediately began their preparations, Mr. Hoffman giving them a letter to Mr. Vanderbilt to make arrangements for transportation, etc., to Albany. Unbeknown to the regiment, a resolution was introduced to the Board of Aldermen, appropriating \$5,000 to defray the expenses of the inaugural, and including the expenses of the Seventy-first. As soon as the officers and members learned the action of the aldermen, they felt as if they had been made a "cat's paw" of, and Colonel Parmelee called on Mr. Hoffman and stated that the regiment did not seek any money from the city, and had intended and were willing to pay all their own expenses. Mr. Hoffman stated that he felt annoyed at the action of the aldermen, and had concluded to refuse the escort; but at the solicitation of Colonel Parmelee, would not take any action in the matter until he heard from him; and the board of officers of the regiment, who held a meeting on the 18th inst., made full arrangements to go, and raised all the money on the spot to pay the expenses. In the meantime, Mr. Hoffman, without waiting for the action of the board of officers, wrote to the adjutant-general to stop arrangements in Albany, and to Colonel Parmelee, the letter being in the hands of the press before Colonel Parmelee received it himself. This statement of the case, as we received it from the officers of the regiment, is offered by them in explanation of the letter of the Governor-elect. It is evident, from the tone of Mr. Hoffman's letter, that he intends no disrespect to the regiment in declining their escort, in view of the fact that the proposed excursion has been made the occasion of one of those drafts upon the city treasury in which the city fathers feel bound to indulge upon all possible occasions. We refer our readers to the daily papers for the correspondence between the Governor-elect and Colonel Parmelee, which has already been too extensively published to require repetition here.

PRESENTATION OF COLORS TO TWENTY-THIRD REGIMENT.—This fine regiment, Colonel R. C. Ward commanding, was presented with a stand of colors on Wednesday evening, the 23d inst., on behalf of the State, by Adjutant-General Marvin, at the State Arsenal, Brooklyn. The regiment formed at the armory at about 8 p. m., and headed by the regimental band and drum corps, marched by "the light of the moon," to the arsenal, which was found to have been nicely filled by the numerous lady and gentlemen friends of the regiment, anxious to witness the presentation. The regiment, some three hundred strong, filed in the drill-room, and formed three sides of a square, when they were reviewed by General Marvin, who was accompanied by General Liebenau and Colonel Burt, of the Governor's staff. After the review, the presentation took place, General Marvin making a very elegant speech, which was neatly responded to by Colonel Ward, on behalf of the regiment. Brigadier-General Meserole and staff were present. The presentation was an important affair, and at its conclusion the regiment marched to the armory for dismissal.

ELECTIONS IN THIRTY-SEVENTH REGIMENT INFANTRY.—Thomas H. Redway, First Lieutenant Company A; Hamlet Hart, Second Lieutenant Company A. Lieutenant Redway, at the organization of the regiment, was elected First Lieutenant of Company A, and was senior lieutenant of the regiment, but resigned early in 1862; Cortland Starr as First Lieutenant of Company G. Lieutenant Starr was formerly Second Lieutenant of Company I, and was one of the hard working men of the regiment. With such officers as Galpin, 8 arr and Cary, Company G ought to have no reason to fear comparison. H. W. Murphy has been elected Second Lieutenant of Company K.

TWENTY-SECOND REGIMENT.—It is understood that this regiment will give a grand military ball at the Academy of Music on or about the 31st of March next. This regiment has now been some four months without a colonel, and an election has not as yet been ordered. Who is to blame in the matter?

THIRTY-SEVENTH REGIMENT DRUM CORPS BALL.—The third annual ball of the Thirty-seventh Regiment Drum Corps, under the command of Drum-major A. J. Mulhern, took place at the regimental armory, corner of Broadway and Thirty-fifth street, on Thursday evening, December 17th. Downing's Seventy-first Regiment Band furnished the music for the drummers. The ball was not over-crowded, but fully enough were present to make the affair pleasant and sociable. The order of dancing contained twenty-four dances. Drum-major Mulhern had charge of the floor, assisted by several of the drum corps. Among the guests were Captains Cox and Pascall, Adjutant Patrick, Lieutenants Owens and Taylor, Sergeant-Major Knobel, and ex-Orderly Sergeant Rennie, of the Thirty-seventh; Lieutenant-Colonel Porley, Major Webster, Adjutant Mackenzie, and Commissary Grey, of the First (Hawkins's Zouaves); Captain Evans, of the Fourth (Duryea's Zouaves), and Drum-major McKeever, of the Eighth.

NINTH REGIMENT.—Louis C. Hamersly, of the Sixth Company, Seventh Regiment, has recently been elected Second Lieutenant of Company E, Ninth Regiment, commanded by Captain E. S. Brooks, in place of John S. Huyler, resigned. Lieutenant Hamersly is a member of long experience in the National Guard, and is a gentleman of high social standing. Company E are to be congratulated on this new acquisition to their company.

NINETY-SIXTH REGIMENT.—The following battalion drills (by wings) will take place at the State Arsenal, during the months of January and February next: Right wing, Companies F, G, K, H and C, on Thursday, January 7th, and Thursday, February 4th. Left wing, Companies E, A, D, B and I, on Thursday, January 21st, and Thursday, February 18th. The respective companies will assemble for these drills, at the State Arsenal, at 7½ p. m., on each of the stated days. The following changes are announced: Resignation—Captain Francis Kohlberger, of Company H. Appointments—Theodor Toussaint, of Company H, to be Hospital Steward of this regiment; Lee Sylvester, of Company A; Emil Reinecker, of Company C; Francis Kohler, of Company F, and Frederick Lange, of Company H, to be Quartermaster-Sergeants of their respective companies. The Company Quartermaster-Sergeants have been ordered to report in writing, giving at the same time, their residence to the Quartermaster of the regiment, First Lieutenant George Kreischer, at 55 Goerck St.

REUNION OF THE OLD GUARD.—This battalion, composed of the old members of the Light Guard, Captain Vincent, and City Guard, Captain McArdle, held their first meeting at the Astor House on the evening of Tuesday, December 22d, when an excellent rally of the past members took place. This body was chartered by the Legislature in the winter of 1868. The main objects of the corporation are to afford pecuniary relief to indigent or reduced members and their widows and children; to promote social union and fellowship and preserve and continue the recollection of service in the Light Guard and City Guard. The constitution and by-laws as read were adopted. Addresses were made by several of the old members, and the necessary committees appointed to attend to the interests of the organization. The officers of the battalion are: Major, George W. McLean; First Captain, Charles A. Stetson, Sr.; Second Captain, E. W. Barr; Quartermaster, M. A. Wheelock; Paymaster, George Brady; Surgeon, A. B. Mott; Chaplain, Henry Molton; First Lieutenants, David D. Hart, Lewis D. Bulkley; Second Lieutenants, Henry Spear, Daniel H. Burdett; Third Lieutenants, Edward L. Hedden, W. E. Laimbeer, Jr.; Fourth Lieutenants, H. E. David, James Davis, Jr.

THIRTEENTH REGIMENT.—Company E, First Lieutenant J. G. F. Powell commanding, held its first annual sociable on the evening of Thursday, 17th inst., at the Brooklyn Institute. The interior was tastefully decorated, and well filled with the *elite* of Brooklyn. The committee of arrangements, a list of whom we give below, were very efficient in their duties: First Lieutenant J. G. F. Powell, Second Lieutenant C. N. Marselle, Sergeant G. W. Strong, Sergeant C. A. Carragher, Corporal C. S. Mount, Corporal G. W. Wood, Privates T. Craft, J. F. Dixon and G. W. Webb.

NEW BATTERY.—We understand that a Howitzer Battery is being formed in Brooklyn, E. D. The organization has not as yet been completed.

NEW ARMORY IN BROOKLYN.—It is expected that the corner stone of the new armory will be laid in a short time. It will be situated at the corner of Stagg street and Bushwick avenue. The regiments who are to occupy it (the Twenty-eighth and Second Cavalry) will parade, and take part in the ceremony. The Twenty-eighth regiment have been for a long time drilling in a hall used for a variety of purposes, and have been subject to much inconvenience in consequence. This regiment now numbers some 500 men, and we shall expect a good account of them after they become fairly settled in their new quarters.

SECOND REGIMENT.—This regiment had a pleasant and sociable gathering at the third annual reception and hop complimentary to Drum-Major M. Cregan, of the Second Regiment Infantry, which took place at the spacious armory of the regiment, in Seventh street, near Third avenue, on Monday evening, December 21, 1868. The armory was decorated in military style with much taste; the same old eagle, with its gas jets, occupying a prominent position at the head of the hall; and excellent music was furnished by O'Brien. Among the guests of the regiment we noticed Colonel Reid, Lieutenant-Colonel De Courcy, Major O'Shaughnessy, Adjutant Rich. Captains Starr, Ball, Urmy, Mullaly, Kelly and others; besides several of the officers formerly in the Volunteer service—among whom were General Lawrence, Colonel Morgan, Majors Henry Welch, Bullard and Forbes, and others. We also noticed Lieutenant-Colonel Beattie, of the Third regiment. The attentions shown by Drum-Major Cregan to his guests left them nothing to desire.

COMPANY G, SEVENTY-FIRST REGIMENT.—We learn that ex-Lieutenant Hagedorn, formerly of this company, who resigned some time ago, has again joined the company as a private, intending to serve his full time in the ranks.

THIRTY-SEVENTH REGIMENT.—This regiment, through the direct applications of Captain Cox and Lieutenant Owens, has secured a requisition of 300 uniforms. Captain Oliver, of Company C, having tendered his resignation some time ago, and the same having been accepted, the command has since devolved on First Lieutenant Frank Owens. An election has not as yet been ordered for the captaincy.

WEBSTER GUARD EXHIBITION DRILL.

So many unjust reports of the competitive drill between the Montgomery Guard of Boston and the Webster Guard of this city appeared in various papers at the time the contest took place, that there has been a doubt in the minds of some as to whether the New York company fairly won the flag on that occasion. We hope all these doubters were present at the exhibition drill of the Webster Guard which took place at Irving Hall on Thursday evening of last week, for they would have then had ocular demonstration of the fine condition in which the company now is, as well as of its proficiency in various military exercises. As even a good drill does not furnish an evening's amusement for those who, so to speak, have not military on the brain, it was thought best to combine the exhibition with a promenade concert and hop, and thus to suit all parties.

The first part of the entertainment consisted of a number of pieces for promenade, each third selection being followed by a portion of the company drill. Shortly after 8 o'clock the regimental band which, under the conduct of Bandmaster Otto, furnished the music for the occasion, took its station on the platform at the west end of the hall and commenced playing the champion quickstep. We pass, however, over this part of the programme with the simple remark that the selections were well chosen and finely rendered throughout the evening. The first part of the exhibition consisted of the manual of arms, the tap drill, and the silent drill. The company paraded with thirty-two men, five sergeants and two lieutenants—Captain Robert McAfee in command. On the occasion of the drill of the Webster Guard in last July its manual was not considered equal to that of its Boston competitors, and considerable attention has therefore been given to this part of the drill since that time. Although the time was purposely somewhat faster than the tactics prescribe, being nearly as rapid as 120 to the minute, the various motions were executed simultaneously and with uniform precision. We noticed one or two men who failed to raise their hands quite high enough in bringing their pieces to a carry, but, with this exception, the manual was very perfect. The tap drill was excellent, each motion being executed at the tap of the drum, and in the proper cadence. The signal for the commencement of the silent drill was given by a tap on the drum, the men going through the manual simultaneously without orders and coming to a parade rest at the close. The entire manual was well gone through with.

For company movements the same number of men was paraded as for the manual. As the Webster Guard displayed their proficiency in the leg movements in their drill with Captain Finnan's company, it is only necessary to say that they have not fallen off from their standard on that occasion. The step was necessarily somewhat shorter than twenty-eight inches, and owing to the condition of the floor (smooth and slippery) the men found it necessary to slide rather than step when marching in double time. The marching was, otherwise, remarkably good, the fronts and distances being well preserved; the latter being especially noticeable when taking single rank distance. Captain McAfee and his company are lucky in having so good a first sergeant, but the man who covers him in file when the company is in column of fours should take a distance of thirty-two inches instead of closing up so near him (see diagrams in Upton and paragraph 937). The third part of the drill consisted of the manual of the bayonet, combinations and fencing. Eighteen men were paraded for this part of the exhibition, who showed great proficiency in the use of bayonet, although the men were evidently much embarrassed by the slippery condition of the floor, which made them very cautious in developing. The combinations and fencing were very good. The exhibition closed with a second display of the proficiency of the company in the manual for the benefit of those who came in late.

At 12 o'clock the company and their friends partook of a bountiful supper; after which they employed themselves in dancing until they dispersed to the strains of Home, Sweet Home. We believe that for the present Company E intend to rest from their labors, although it is highly probable that in the spring they will accept one of the challenges now on hand.

The exhibition was throughout highly creditable in all respects, and was a decisive proof that Company E, of the Twelfth, richly deserve all the complimentary things which have been said of them in these columns.

The following General Orders, No. 27, has been issued by General Marvin, dated Adjutant-General's Office, Albany, December 14, 1868:

I. Commanding officers, in transmitting the abstract of the accounts against their commands, audited by the Board of Auditors, as provided by law, will send the vouchers of the party representing the account. The vouchers must contain an explicit statement of what the account is for, giving each item in detail.

II. Three copies of the abstract will be made out and forwarded to these headquarters; one will be returned to the commanding officer, one forwarded to the county treasurer, and the other filed in this department.

III. County treasurers will not pay any account of a military organization out of the regimental fund, unless the same has been approved and audited by the adjutant-general.

GUIDONS FOR THE SECOND DIVISION.—We are glad to learn that it is not the intention to exclude the Second division from participation in the contest for the guidons provided by the State Military Association, as will be seen by the following Special Order No. 396, issued by General Marvin, December 5th:

Brigadier-General J. V. Meserole, commanding Eleventh brigade, Second division National Guard, is hereby authorized to act in the matter of the appointment of three officers to report to him what regiment in the Second division is entitled to the guidon, and what men in the commands of said division are entitled to the medals to be distributed by the Military Association of the State, as per resolution passed at its last meeting. General Meserole will, in this matter, carry out, as far as is practicable, the wishes of the Association in the Second division National Guard, as expressed in the circular letter of General Lloyd Aspinwall, president of the association.

We have not yet learned what action General Meserole has taken in this matter, or whether he has selected the three judges he is authorized to appoint.

THIRD REGIMENT CAVALRY.—The Twenty-first annual ball of Troop C, Captain John Dilger commanding, took place at the Union Assembly Rooms, corner of Grand and Elizabeth streets, on Monday evening, the 21st inst. The ball room was quite gaily decorated with battle-flags and bunting of all kinds. Among the different guests in the room we noticed Colonel Budke, Majors Sauer and Schmale, Surgeon Hafner, and Captain Wisser, of the regiment; also Judge Gale and Assemblyman Hartmann. Taking all in all the affair was a success, and Troop C ought to be well satisfied with it.

RINGGOLD HORSE GUARD, TROOP A, SECOND REGIMENT CAVALRY.—This ancient organization held its twenty-first annual ball at the State Arsenal, Portland, on Tuesday evening, the 22d inst. The ball opened at shortly after 9 o'clock P. M. The

formation of the troop, Captain Kayser commanding, and a march by fours and twos, the motive of which we could not discover, but presume it is something after the "Horse Marine" tactics. At the conclusion of the march, dancing commenced and continued until supper was announced, after partaking of which it was again renewed with vigor until a late hour. The arsenal was filled to repletion and the "Ringgold Guard" may feel perfectly satisfied with the success of their twenty-first ball. The committee of arrangements consisted of Captain F. H. Kayser, Lieutenant Joseph Shack, Sergeant G. Heit, Corporal John B. Meyenberg. Among those present were Colonels Crosey of the Second Cavalry, and Urban, Twenty-eighth Infantry, Brevet Major Schurig, of Fourteenth Infantry, and the officers generally of the Second Cavalry and other organizations.

Early on the morning of Friday, December 18th, a fire was discovered in the State Arsenal building, corner of Seventh avenue and Thirty-fifth street. The prompt action of the employees soon extinguished the flames, and the damage is consequently inconsiderable.

FIRST REGIMENT.—A promenade concert of the First Regiment Infantry (Hawkins's Zouaves), will take place on Monday evening, December 28th, at the Apollo Hall, corner of Twenty-eighth street and Broadway. The music will be furnished by Theodore Thomas's orchestra. Lieutenant-Colonel Perley, Major Webster, Captain Dobbs and Lieutenant Barthman, compose the committee.

The resignation of Lieutenant Frank M. Clark, of the First Regiment Infantry, was tendered to the Colonel some two months since to take effect immediately, but as yet nothing has been heard of the matter.

The drum corps of this regiment (Hawkins Zouaves), under command of Drum-Major Blumenrother, gave a ball to their friends on Tuesday evening, December 22, 1868, at the armory of the regiment, corner of Broadway and Fourth streets. The affair was a very pleasant one. Lesher's band furnished the music for the merry drummer boys, and pleased them highly. A delegation from the Hooker Rifles, of Jersey City, were present; as also were pretty nearly all the members of Company F, Fourth Hudson Rifle Corps, of Hoboken. Among others we noticed Lieutenants Martin and Betts, of the First, and Drum-Major McKeever, of the Eighth. The floor manager was Fourth Sergeant John Betts, who was assisted by several of the drummers. Drum-Major Blumenrother was chairman of the committee of arrangements. The affair was a success, not only in the pleasure it afforded all who attended, but also in a pecuniary point of view.

A grand promenade concert will be given by the First Regiment N. G. S. N. Y., at Apollo Hall, Twenty-eighth street and Broadway, on Monday evening, 28th inst. Music will be furnished by Theodore Thomas.

NINTH REGIMENT.—At an election held in Company D at the regimental armory on Tuesday evening, the 22d inst., Sergeant J. A. Theriot was elected second lieutenant, vice Pollock, resigned. Lieutenant Theriot is one of the workers of this company, and we congratulate him and the company on the result of the election.

THIRTY-SEVENTH REGIMENT.—This regiment assembled for battalion drill at the State Arsenal on Tuesday evening, December 22, 1868, Colonel Leggat in command. Lieutenant-Colonel Dusenberry and Adjutant Patrick were also present. The drill, which was very short, was very creditable. The principal event of the evening was the adoption of a new fatigue, jacket and pants of cadet gray, trimmed red, to wear with white cross-belts, and cap of same. We understand that the regiment also intends to adopt a dress coat of the same material. Company D, of this regiment, held an election on Monday evening, December 21, 1868, at the armory on Broadway, corner of Thirty-fifth street, when Second Lieutenant Charles S. Glover, Jr., was elected captain in place of Shaw, resigned, and Sergeant D. W. C. Ward was elected second lieutenant in place of Glover, promoted.

Sergeant Duke, of Company B, clerk at the headquarters of this regiment, was recently presented with a beautiful rosewood writing-desk by Colonel Leggett and Adjutant Patrick, conjointly, as a token of appreciation of his services. Prizes are offered by Colonel Leggett, Lieutenant-Colonel Dusenberry and Adjutant Patrick to the member obtaining the greatest number of recruits previous to March 1st, and to the non-commissioned officer most regular in his attendance on drills during the drill season.

THE MAJOR GENERAL OF THE SECOND DIVISION.—The impression conveyed in our last issue that full argument was had at the General Term in the case of the People against Edward L. Molineux, is incorrect. Such was not the case. In accordance with a previous understanding between the attorneys, the case was presented at the opening of the court, and the court was requested to accept a submission of the appeal *pro forma* and affirm the judgment of the court below. This the court refused to do until they had first heard a statement of the point involved. The object of this application was to place this cause on the calendar of the Court of Appeals early in January, where the question of the right of an officer to disregard and disobey the orders of the commander-in-chief to surrender his command of the division to the major-general, and the right of the Governor to appoint during the recess of the Senate, will be finally determined.

When the case was reached, a simple statement of the issue was made, and the judgment was affirmed, the appeal perfected, and the return forwarded to the Clerk of the Court of Appeals the same day. The court meets on the 5th of January, and the argument will be made, probably, on the 6th or 7th, this being among the earliest cases.

Apocryph of this contest for Militia honors, we are informed that very extraordinary objection is made to General Molineux's appointment; that he left the National Guard at the opening of the war to enter the Volunteer service, and thus forfeited his right to advancement in the Militia; or, in other words, that promotion in the National Guard is, and of a right ought to be, confined to those officers of that service who stood by its fortunes in spite of the war and of the urgent need of the Government for efficient officers in the field.

It is well known that General Molineux left the Militia to enter upon active service in the late war. In what esteem he was held may be inferred from the fact that at its close the Government brevetted him brigadier and major-general of Volunteers for "gallant and meritorious services," and also from the annexed extracts from files of the War Department at Washington, which we take the liberty of publishing without General Molineux's consent or knowledge:

Major-General Phil. Sheridan says: "I have the honor to call attention to the valuable services rendered the Government by Brevet Brigadier-General E. L. Molineux, and would respectfully request he be commissioned a major-general of Volunteers by brevet for gallant and meritorious services during the Shenandoah Valley campaign, especially for the battles of Winchester, Fisher's Hill and Cedar Creek."

Major-General Q. A. Gillmore writes: "It affords me pleasure to bear testimony to his great zeal, administrative ability and general efficiency as an officer, as well as his high character as a gentleman; and I bear in special remembrance the satisfactory manner in which he discharged the delicate and responsible duties of post and district commander at Augusta, Ga."

Brigadier-General Stewart L. Woodford says: "He having been assigned to the important post of Augusta, governed it and the adjacent district, during the spring and summer of 1865, with great ability and success. His troops were kept in excellent condition, and the many delicate and difficult duties of his position were discharged to the entire satisfaction of his department commander."

Major-General W. H. Emory, U. S. Army, says: "He commanded brigades and divisions under me in the Red River campaign and Shenandoah Valley, and on several occasions behaved with conspicuous gallantry, particularly at the battles of Winchester, Fisher's Hill and Cedar Creek."

Brevet Major-General C. Grover, U. S. Army, says: "General Molineux served under my command for over three years, and was always distinguished for efficiency, faithfulness and gallantry in the field."

In every position in which he has been placed he has discharged the duties with a fidelity, ability and zeal which cannot be too highly commended, and he has won, as an officer and a gentleman, the confidence and esteem of his superior officers, and of the troops serving under him.

COMPANY A, TWENTY-SECOND REGIMENT.—Company Order No. 14, dated December 18th, orders that, in pursuance of orders from regimental headquarters, this company assemble at the armory on December 22d and 29th, at 8 P. M., for wing drill (white gloves and gaiters). There will be no company drill on 24th and 31st instants. The following promotions are announced: Lieutenant James S. Franklin elected first lieutenant, vice Bussing, resigned; Sergeant Edward H. Cunningham elected second lieutenant, vice Franklin, promoted; Sergeant John W. Castree appointed first sergeant, vice Cunningham, promoted; Sergeant Charles Erben promoted to be second sergeant; Corporal H. J. Swartz promoted to be third sergeant; Private F. R. Anderson promoted to be corporal.

FIRST DIVISION.—General Elmer has issued the following orders dated December 19, 1868:

I. The Major-General commanding announces with sincere regret the resignations of Colonel and Brevet Major-General Martin T. McMahon, Division Inspector, and Colonel and Brevet Major-General Joseph E. Hamblin, Assistant Adjutant-General and Chief of Staff. These gallant and meritorious officers have each received an honorable discharge.

II. The recent transfer of General McMahon to the diplomatic service of the nation, may justly be regarded in the light of a well deserved promotion. His numerous friends in this division cherish a warm interest in his future prosperity, and derive great pleasure from the assurance that his duties as a Minister of the United States will at all times be performed with zeal, intelligence and fidelity such as distinguished his conduct in the field.

III. General Hamblin's ever-ready honor to himself and to the division in which he received the rudiments of his military education. By his own accomplishments and efficiency, he has illustrated the advantages of maintaining, in time of peace, military organizations which shall prove effective in time of war. His many honorable and eminently useful public services nobly vindicate the fame of the First division. His early companions, in whose presence he now gracefully sheathes his untarnished sword, will always hold him in grateful remembrance.

IV. The following promotions and appointments are announced on the staff of the Major-General commanding:

Colonel John Fowler, Jr., to be assistant adjutant-general and chief of staff, with the rank of colonel, vice Hamblin, resigned.

Lieutenant-Colonel William H. Cheebrough, to be division inspector, with the rank of colonel, vice Fowler, appointed assistant adjutant-general and chief of staff.

Lieutenant-Colonel John J. Donaldson, to be ordnance officer, with the rank of lieutenant-colonel, vice Cheebrough, promoted.

Captain George McClure, of the Fourth brigade staff, to be quartermaster, with the rank of lieutenant-colonel, vice Bend, resigned.

Captain Frederick Villmar, formerly of U. S. Volunteers, to be commissary of subsistence, with the rank of lieutenant-colonel, vice Donaldson, appointed ordnance officer.

Colonel Alfred Wagstaff, Jr., to be aide-de-camp, with the rank of major.

Captain James Fairgrieve, formerly of U. S. Volunteers, to be aide-de-camp, with the rank of captain.

OTHER MATTERS.

FIFTH REGIMENT CONCERT AND BALL AT BALTIMORE, MD.—The complimentary concert and ball tendered by the members of the Fifth Regiment Maryland National Guard to the honorary members came off on Monday evening, 21st inst., at the armory on Howard street. The decorations of the hall and other arrangements bore witness to the energy and good taste of the committee of arrangements. The gallery over the entrance was ornamented in the centre with the coat-of-arms of Maryland, over which waved the Stars and Stripes, while along the front of the gallery were arranged the drums of the regimental drum corps, against a background of flags and evergreens. Directly under the gallery, in the centre of the hall, was a stand of arms handsomely decorated. At the other end of the hall, over the musicians' stand, was the regimental coat-of-arms, surrounded by flags and wreaths of evergreens; while on the front of the platform was displayed a beautiful little banner of blue silk, bearing a silver star, the property of Company C, to whom it was presented as having turned out the largest number of men. On either side of the hall, throughout its whole length, were the muskets of each company, placed on racks against the wall and polished to a mirror-like brightness.

A little past 8 o'clock the concert commenced by the regimental band, under the leadership of Prof. Louis Winter.

Dancing commenced about 10 o'clock, and continued until an early hour the next morning.

The concert programme and list of dances were made up in the shape of a knapsack, black in color, with a roll to represent the blanket on the top, and on the back the figure 5 and letters M. N. G. in gilt. A ribbon answered to fasten the knapsack to a button or through a button-hole, and when opened it presented the concert programme, list of dances and card for engagements.

Altogether the concert and ball may well be termed a brilliant success. Among the guests were Governor Swann and the members of his staff, in full dress uniform.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Commissioned.—Company F, Seventh regiment, Captain Samuel H. Robinson, of Boston, December 8, 1868, vice John Q. Bird, discharged.

Resigned and Discharged.—Company A, Third regiment, Captain Charles P. Lyon, of Halifax; Company H, Sixth regiment, Second Lieutenant Francis McQuade, of Lowell; First Battery Light Artillery, Captain Lucius Cummings, of Boston.

HERR SCHNEIDER.

The non-commissioned officers of the Fifth Field Battery of the Prussian Guard Artillery, announce, by an advertisement in the Berlin *Vossische Zeitung*, the death of their comrade of war, "Herr Schneider." This is the name of a goat belonging to the battery, which came into their possession when the army was mobilized in the year 1864, and he soon became attached to the men of the corps, with whom he was a general favorite.

Herr Schneider always marched with the men of the first gun, from whom he also received his rations. He regularly attended parade, took his place among the non-commissioned officers, and appeared to listen attentively to the orders given. When the war broke out in 1866, he marched at the head of the battery, and when they crossed the Bohemian frontier, was promoted to the rank of sergeant by the privates, who presented him with a beautiful collar, on which were embroidered the distinguishing marks of his military rank. However, as soon as hostilities commenced, he was tied up to one of the ammunition wagons and kept in the rear, but during the battle of Konigshof, when the roar of cannon and discharges of small arms were at their highest, the military spirit of Herr Schneider broke out, and he managed to slip away and go to the front at full gallop, the orderly following as fast as he could in order to recover his charge. Just at that moment the Crown Prince met them, and he inquired of the orderly what he was doing with the goat. On being informed of the state of affairs, his Royal Highness appeared much amused, and said jocosely, "Let him go, he has orders to attack the enemy, and will be in the *melee* before any of you."

Subsequently, Herr Schneider returned to his ammunition wagon none the worse for his bravado. After the battle the artillerymen promoted him to the brevet rank of sergeant-major for having given proofs of his undoubted courage in presence of the enemy, and decorated his collar with a medal made out of a copper pan from the captured cooking utensils of General Count Coronini. After going through all the dangers of the campaign unscathed, he had the misfortune, on the return march of the army after the conclusion of the war, to break one of his legs while leaping down from a wagon; but the science of the regimental surgeon and the needful repose soon reinstated him in his former robust state of health, and he was able to march at the head of his battery on the memorable triumphant entry of the army into Berlin, in September, 1866.

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It is seldom that we use the columns of this paper to "puff" or notice the "thousand and one" articles known as Patent Medicines. We, however, vary from our rule in the present case, that we may call attention to the article known as "S. T.—1860—X., Plantation Bitters." We desire it understood that we do so without any solicitation or promise of benefit from the proprietor or other interested parties. We simply do it as an act of duty toward those who are laboring under physical disability, weakness, and the various complaints arising from impurities of the blood. Having used the Bitters at the instigation of a friend, (and, we confess, with some misgivings at the outset,) we found them a most valuable medical compound, and to our great satisfaction, accomplished the object for which they were used.—*Exchange.*

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MARRIED.

BERNER-SKARKS.—At St. Mark's Church, Philadelphia, on Thursday, Dec. 17th, by the Rev. C. L. Malson, Brevet Major W. S. BERNER, Ordnance Corps U. S. A., to SOPHIA SKARKS, daughter of Thomas Skarks, Esq., of that city.

BENJAMIN-FISH.—On Tuesday, December 8th, by the Rev. Alexander H. Vinton, D. D., SAMUEL N. BENJAMIN, Brevet Colonel U. S. A. and Captain Second U. S. Artillery, to JULIA KEAN, daughter of Hon. Hamilton Fish, of this city.

WHITSIDE-MCGAVOCK.—In San Antonio, Texas, Tuesday, November 24, 1868, at the residence of Dr. Dallas Bache, U. S. Army, by the Rev. E. A. Rogers, Brevet Major SAMUEL M. WHITSIDE, Captain Sixth U. S. Cavalry, to CARRIE MCGAVOCK, of Nashville, Tenn.

WOODHULL-ELLICOTT.—On Tuesday, 15th December, at St. Luke's Church, Baltimore, by Rev. Chas. W. Hankin, Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel ALFRED A. WOODHULL, Assistant Surgeon U. S. Army, and MARGARET, third daughter of Elias Ellicott, of that city.

DIED.

RANDALL.—At Janesville, Wis., December 9th, LIZZIE VALLEAU, wife of Brevet Major George M. Randall, U. S. A., and niece of John T. Lacy, Buffalo, N. Y., aged 21 years.

HUTCHINS.—By the burning of the steamboat *United States*, in the Ohio River, December 4th, GEORGE HUTCHINS, of Concord, N. H., aged 71, and SARAH ROSE TUCKER, his wife, aged 66, parents of Brevet Major B. T. Hutchins, Captain Sixth Cavalry.

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wife, George Rabold, Mary Eliza Doremus, Merwin
Rabold and Sarah his wife, Susan Heck, Daniel Ra-
bold and Annie his wife, Levi Rabold, Margaret Cov-
erly, Virginia Powers, Jefferson Slamm and Hannah
his wife, Charles Slamm, Emma Slamm, Addison
Slamm (an infant), Clara Slamm (an infant), Rachel
Fellows, Mary Eliza Miller, William Slamm (an in-
fant), and Laura Fletcher (an infant), defendants.
To the defendants above named and each of them:
You are hereby summoned and required to answer
the complaint in this action, which will be filed in the
office of the Clerk of the Court of Common Pleas for
the City and County of New York, at the City
Hall, in the City of New York, and to serve a copy of
your answer to the said complaint on the subscriber,
at his office, No. 17 Broad street, in the said City
of New York, within twenty days after the service of
this summons upon you, exclusive of the day of such
service; and if you fail to answer the said complaint
within the time aforesaid, the plaintiff in this action
will apply to the court for the relief demanded in the
complaint.

Dated New York, October 29, 1868.

T. WILBUR BURD,
Plaintiff's Attorney.

The complaint in the above entitled action was
duly filed in the office of the Clerk of the Court of
Common Pleas for the City and County of New York,
at the City Hall in the said City of New York,
on the fifth day of November, 1868.

Dated New York, November 13, 1868.
T. WILBUR BURD,
Plaintiff's Attorney.

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ST. PAUL, MINN., November 27, 1868.

SEALED PROPOSALS ARE INVITED
from those loyal citizens of the United States,
having the capital and means to execute fully and
fairly in all its parts and conditions, a contract for the
Wagon Transportation for the United States Quarter-
master's Department for the District of Montana,
next season, beginning April 1st, and ending March
31, 1870, for that hauling outside of the limits em-
braced by the present contract for that month (April)
for that district, and beginning May 1, 1869, for the
yearly contract of the entire district, namely:

All that part of Montana included in the Depart-
ment of Dakota. The object of the contract is to
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described district; to haul baggage or supplies to ac-
company troops upon any march or in any military
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above described.

The weight to be transported in the District of
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000).

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of the year commencing April 1, 1869, and ending
March 31, 1870.

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be accompanied by a bond in the sum of ten thousand
dollars (\$10,000), signed by two or more responsible
persons, guaranteeing that in case a contract is award-
ed for the hauling in the above mentioned district, to
the party proposing, the contract will be accepted and
entered into, and good and sufficient security furnished
by said party, in accordance with the terms of this
advertisement.

The contractor will be required to give bonds in
the sum of fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000).
Satisfactory evidence of the solvency of each bidder
and person offered as security will be required.

Proposals must be endorsed "Proposals for Army
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tained unless they fully comply with the require-
ments of this advertisement.

The party to whom an award is made must be pre-
pared to execute the contract at once and to give the
required bonds for the faithful performance of the
contract.

The right to reject any and all bids that may be
offered is reserved.

The contractor must be in readiness for service by
the first day of April, 1869, and will be required to
have a piece of business or agency at which he may
be communicated with promptly and readily, for the
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Benton, and in the District of Montana at such other
point as may be indicated as the starting point in
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assistant quartermaster U. S. Army, chief quar-
termaster District of Montana, and at St. Paul, Min-
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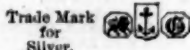
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